



Manorfield Children's Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY334772
Inspection date	24 November 2006
Inspector	Susan Andrews
Setting Address	Manorfield C of E Primary School, Station Road, Stoney Stanton, LEICESTER, LE9 4LU
Telephone number	01455 272787
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Registered person	Manorfield Childrens Club
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Manorfield Children's Club opened in 2006 and operates from the Community Centre and areas within the Manorfield Church of England Primary School in the Leicestershire village of Stoney Stanton near Hinckley. A maximum of 40 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 07:30 to 08:30 and from 15:00 to 18:00 during term time and in school holidays from 07:30 to 18:00.

There are currently 25 children aged from three years to nine years on roll. Staff have experience of supporting children with learning difficulties, disabilities and also children who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs two permanent staff members, both hold appropriate early years qualifications and additional relief staff or volunteers are also available.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in clean, spacious and well maintained premises where they enjoy frequent access and opportunities to exercise during play and sporting activities, this helps maintain their health and well-being. Sessions are organised so that children also have time to relax, rest and engage in quieter activities if they are tired.

Standards of hygiene are of a high standard throughout the premises. Children wash their hands regularly before snack time and after using the toilet. Disposable towels are available and staff explain the importance of good hygiene routines. This helps children develop an understanding of their own personal care needs and minimises the risk of cross infection.

Staff liaise closely with parents to ensure they have access to information, enabling them to meet children's individual health and dietary needs. Comprehensive records are maintained regarding any accidents and the administration of medication to children. First aid supplies are readily available and staff are trained in paediatric first aid. This enables them to respond positively and act in the children's best interests if they are unwell or have an accident whilst attending the club.

Children have drinks of water, squash and milk and choose from a range of cereals, toast, muffins, yoghurt, porridge and fruit for breakfast. After school, when they arrive at the setting, they have scones, crumpets, tea cakes, soup and bread and choose from a large basket of fresh fruit containing bananas, apples, kiwi fruit, satsumas and plums. Healthy eating is always promoted and staff ensure nutritional value is high. Therefore, children are able to make healthy choices and begin to understand how good nutrition can be of benefit to their health. Children are encouraged to have additional fluids during hot weather and after physical activity, this means that they remain well hydrated. Snack times are managed so that children and staff engage in a positive social environment.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children happily settle in the suitable premises that provide ample space for them to experience active play or relax. Staff use available space extremely well enabling children to move freely between a range of interesting activities in clearly designated areas. Children safely and independently access resources because they are organised well and are appropriately presented in respect to children's ages and stages of development. Children of all ages enjoy access to a range of physical activities under careful supervision, enabling them to benefit from regular exercise.

Comprehensive risk assessments are conducted and regularly reviewed, this helps to identify and minimise hazards to children. Strategies and systems are in place to ensure toys and equipment meet appropriate safety standards. Items are checked for safety as part of the setting's ongoing, rigorous health and safety policy and procedures. Staff make good use of

spontaneous learning opportunities that encourage children to be aware of safety issues. For example, during hand over to school or when moving from one area of the premises to another. Children know what is expected of them and follow staff's directions carefully. These procedures enhance children's knowledge and awareness of their own safety.

Fire evacuation procedures have been considered carefully and fire drills are regularly practised. Therefore strategies are in place and all staff and children are familiar with the procedures to be followed in the case of a real emergency and children's well-being is safeguarded.

High staff ratios are maintained helping to ensure children are offered good supervision that is appropriate to their choice of activities and stage of development. Security of the premises is good and staff ensure that no unauthorised persons have access to the children whilst attending the club.

Appropriate child protection policies and procedures are in place and these are made readily available to parents. Staff have attended child protection training and are clear about what child abuse and neglect means. They recognise the signs and symptoms and understand their responsibility to follow up any child protection concerns, this ensures children are protected and their welfare safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children across the age range are settled and relaxed within the setting. They are confident in their dealings with adults and develop good relationships with their peers. The qualified and experienced staff are enthusiastic and clearly enjoy talking to the children and listening to what they say. They are skilled in knowing when to be involved in children's activities and when it is appropriate to encourage children to work together to resolve issues themselves. This enables children to develop their confidence, communication and to learn new skills. Staff recognise and take into account children's individual interests and preferences when planning activities. They frequently monitor and evaluate the play provision, letting children's interests and individual stages of their development influence how and what activities are presented. Children are encouraged to make choices and their views are obtained on a regular basis. As a result, there is an excellent balance of child-initiated and adult-led activities.

Children have access to a wide range of arts, crafts, games, floor toys, puzzles, dressing up and role play that encourage children to be curious, imaginative, creative and to develop their skills. For example, children are developing a flair for drama as they plan and prepare to perform a pantomime that they have written themselves. Planned activities, such as table tennis, snooker and access to the computer suite, take into account children's individual interests, their need to progress, learn new skills and socialise. They play and explore the world around them individually as well as in small and larger groups. This helps children to reach their full potential, enjoy the activities, relax and have fun.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

A comprehensive, written equal opportunities policy is in place to support the setting's good practice. Children and their parents are treated with respect and equal concern. The club creates a welcoming environment and is beginning to introduce some toys, activities and resources that reflect different cultures and lifestyles. Whilst this helps children to feel a sense of belonging it is insufficient to fully enable children to learn about the wider community. Children's individual needs, interests and preferences are identified and staff implement the policy for children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities. They establish effective systems that support the full age range and abilities of the children.

Staff are able to make effective use of a range of good strategies to help children learn to behave appropriately. For example, consistent and positive attention and good role models, help children to value and respect each other, share toys and equipment appropriately. Staff are consistent in establishing agreed boundaries so that children know what is expected of them and how their behaviour affects others. Children begin to learn to manage their own behaviour and are often encouraged to develop independence and social skills, for example, sharing their skills and older children readily helping the younger ones.

The setting is strongly committed to developing a positive partnership with parents ensuring the required information is gathered at the time a child is placed at the setting, exchanged and reviewed on a regular basis. Parents receive useful ongoing information about the setting's aims, planned activities and routines, so helping parents to understand how children's care is organised. A comprehensive range of well thought out policy statements and procedures are displayed and made readily available at all times. Parents and staff routinely share necessary information about children's individual care, dietary and health needs enabling these to be met effectively. The close relationship between the setting and parents has a positive impact on the continuity of care for the children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The qualified and experienced staff work well together as a team. Staff are deployed effectively and good adult to child ratios enable staff to spend time working closely with children as individuals or in small groups, this establishes secure relationships. They create a stable and secure environment so that children are settled, confident, enjoy their time at the setting and have fun.

Staff have a good knowledge of the National Standards and take seriously their responsibility to ensure compliance. They take active steps to extend their awareness of good practice issues, for example, through further training opportunities. Staff regularly meet together to plan activities and discuss good practice and policy issues, for example, in managing children's behaviour so helping them to develop their skills and maintain consistency. This has a positive impact on the continuity of care for children.

Most of the policy documentation, procedures and records are in place for the efficient, safe management of the provision and to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. However, strategies have not yet been developed regarding staff recruitment, suitability, induction and appraisal. Therefore, because systems are not in place to evaluate the suitability and competency of new staff, the care and welfare of the children is potentially compromised. Arrangements for the exchange of information with parents is well-established. Appropriate contact information, personal details and records regarding children and their care are obtained and updated on a regular basis, enabling staff to take account and meet children's individual care needs.

Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- continue to develop resources and activities that reflect diversity and promote positive images regarding culture, gender and disability
- devise rigorous systems to ensure the suitability of staff members with regard to their recruitment, selection, induction and appraisal.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk