



Aycliffe Village Primary School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY301405
Inspection date 23 August 2005
Inspector Eileen Rochford

Setting Address Aycliffe Village Primary School, North Terrace, Aycliffe, Newton
Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 6LG

Telephone number 01325 300227

E-mail aycliffevillage.primary@durhamlea.org.uk

Registered person House of Eden Limited

Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Full day 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Aycliffe Village Primary school day care has been registered since February 2005.

It is situated within Aycliffe Village primary school. The group provides full day care for children aged 2 to 8 years from Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 6.00 pm. The group serves children from the local community and surrounding areas. They have the sole use of one room during school hours and additional space outside school hours which includes the large hall and smaller rooms.

There are currently nineteen children on the roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Seven children were present at the inspection.

There are currently no children attending with special needs or with English as an additional language.

Four staff work with the children, all hold a recognised qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through well planned daily routines. For example they know that they must wash hands after toileting and before meals to stop germs spreading. Good procedures which include using disposable gloves and disinfecting mats after every use, are in place for nappy changing. This ensures a clean hygienic environment.

Children are offered a balanced diet. Meals are served to children in a social setting, encouraging them to develop social skills. Older children are able to pour their own water and assist with the choosing of menu's thus developing their understanding of food and nutrition. All children are able to freely access water, and drinks throughout the day. They understand that they must only drink from their own beaker. Younger children's independence is promoted well by having individual pictures to recognise their beaker. Older children support younger children in this area.

Throughout the day children are able to experience a range of outdoor activities. This provides them with the opportunity to develop a range of physical skills and children competently move and negotiate space.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are well cared for in a clean, well maintained environment. The good organisation of well maintained toys and equipment means children can move around safely and freely to independently access available resources from storage areas at their level. This has a positive impact on younger children's play and learning. There are arrangements for older children to access additional areas of the school during term time. However, at the inspection older children were using areas designated for younger children. Therefore space, equipment and resources are not as available for younger children.

Children benefit from a good range of safety measures, which are supported through a comprehensive range of policies and procedures. Children develop a sound awareness of safety through practicing emergency evacuations, and discussing the reasons for this. Staff's good knowledge of safety is highlighted by sensitive reminders, such as a request to pick up toys from the floor. This enhances children's

awareness of safety.

Children are well protected from possible abuse or neglect. Staff have attended training and show a sound understanding of the procedures to follow with any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children settle well on arrival. They enjoy making choices about their activities. They are motivated and interested in the range of activities provided which offer challenges for younger children within the group. Activities and resources available for older children are limited, which results in children becoming bored. For example books available are not appropriate and children bring books from home. Equipment within the main area is suitable for younger children. Older children find this equipment difficult to use, which restricts and limits the effectiveness of activities for all group members.

Children are able to choose their activities from the range available and supplement equipment from storage containers which are at children's level. Free movement between inside and outside enhances the choices available to children.

All children within the group have positive relationships with staff and each other. They share their experiences. Discussion is extended to imaginative play with costumes, dancing and initiating music. Older children within the group help and support younger children. For example they help children work together and negotiate building a tower with bricks. Children communicate well with peers and adults. They are encouraged to express themselves verbally and non verbally, through a range of activities and experiences.

Children take a pride in their achievements. Work is attractively displayed and supported with photos.

Staff plan around the curriculum guidance for the Foundation Stage and adapt it well to suit the younger children's need, cover all areas of learning and provide adult led activities. Planning for older children is more flexible to allow for school holidays and the fluctuation of children's attendance. Due to the low numbers of older children staff keep a list of activities available, to ensure a balance is maintained. Staff demonstrate an understanding of the importance of developing planning and including discussions with children.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are highly valued as individuals. They develop a positive attitude to others and gain a good understanding about the wider world and community through the good range of play resources which show positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability. For example children enjoy participating with dancer's dresses

from Turkey. Children enjoyed re enacting the dance, and using the music. This led well to them talking about the cultural differences, with older children supporting younger children in the discussion.

The individual needs of all children who attend are met. The setting has effective policies in place to support children with special needs although none currently attend. Children behave very well. They begin to understand right and wrong through consistent boundaries and praise. The calm environment and positive role models provided by staff encourage children to understand what and why behaviour is unacceptable.

Partnership with parents and carers is good. Children benefit from parents involvement in their learning. Information is readily available through newsletters, daily chats and detailed notice-boards, which help staff and parents work together.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children feel at home and at ease within the well organised environment. This results in confident children who are happy to initiate their own play.

There are satisfactory procedures in place for staffing , which results in staff having a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Staff have completed a breadth of training since registration and the continuing programme of training demonstrates their commitment to child care.

There is a wide range of policies and procedures in place, which overall work well in practice.

However conditions of registration have not been adhered to and children under two years have been cared for when the provision is only registered for children from two years. The children for whom the provision is registered have therefore not received the necessary staff interaction due to staff input with the unregistered children.

Overall the group does not meet the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- management must ensure that children attending comply with the conditions of registration.

These actions are set out in a **notice of action to improve** and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk