

Leprechauns Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY308953
Inspection date	05 April 2007
Inspector	Judith Rayner
Setting Address	Dunston Primary School, Dunston Lane, Newbold, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S41 8EY
Telephone number	01246 208746
E-mail	
Registered person	Leprechauns Out of School Ltd
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Leprechauns Out of School Ltd registered in 2006. It operates within Dunston Primary school in Newbold, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Children from the local community attend. There are local amenities close by which includes shops and a park. Children have access to the main school hall, dining room, quiet room and a games room. There are toilet facilities which are easily accessible. They also have access to a school field.

Sessions are held during term time between the hours of 15:00 to 18:00. During school holidays it operates between the hours of 08:00 to 18:00. It is open for 51 weeks of the year and closed for one week during the Christmas holiday period and all Bank holidays. There are 400 children on roll who attend various sessions throughout the week. There are eight staff who are employed at the setting, of these, seven hold a recognised child care qualification appropriate to their post. The setting receives support from the local Authority

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted well. Good standards of hygiene prevent the spread of infection. Staff adhere to clearly written policies and procedures and are good role models. Children are developing their awareness of personal hygiene. They take responsibility for washing their hands after using the toilet and messy play. They independently take themselves to the toilet but check and inform a staff member before they go. Children's medical needs are dealt with promptly. This is because there are effective systems in place to gather and hold relevant information about each child's needs. Staff are confident and knowledgeable in following the procedures to take if a child is ill or injured.

Children are nourished with adequate amounts of food and drink. Healthy eating for children is promoted. Staff monitor the children's lunch boxes to ensure they contain appropriate and sufficient amounts of food. Staff clearly follow health and safety regulations. Lunch boxes are stored in a cool area of the room and away from direct sunlight. Therefore, children are less vulnerable to food contamination. Children enjoy lunch times. They spend time talking about events from home and sharing experiences. Children are developing their independence and decision making skills as they choose when they would like a drink.

Children benefit from fresh air and exercise. They engage in a good range of activities that enhance their physical skills, such as, playing football and building with large construction materials to make four wheeled vehicles. They particularly choose to spend their time outside. This is because the staff deploy themselves effectively promoting children's independence to move freely from one area to another.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The setting promotes an environment where children and parents are warmly welcomed. Children's all round development is promoted well. This is because staff organise resources and space to encourage children to freely and independently access a range of activities and facilities in a safe and stimulating environment. However, the provision for a rest area is not as effectively promoted. Thus, not providing an area where children are invited and encouraged to relax. Children freely move around the areas both inside and outside accessing activities of their choice with interest and curiosity. Resources and toys are attractively presented, age and ability appropriate and in a good state of repair. Therefore, the varying learning and development needs of the children are met well.

Positive steps are taken to promote the safety of all children. Staff understand and comply with policies and procedures and are effective in putting these into practice. For example, they undertake daily risk assessments to ensure both the indoor and outside areas are safe and secure. Therefore, children are protected from hazardous situations. The supervision of children is good. Staff deploy themselves around the room and outside to ensure children are given the best support to participate in activities and make choices as to whether to be inside or outside.

The welfare, safety and protection of children is maintained effectively because staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children. Staff follow

and comply with clearly written policies and procedures. They see the protection and safeguarding of children as a priority.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and independent, they enjoy their time at the setting. They are forming good relationships with both adults and their peers. For example, they hold good conversations about events from home with the adults and play imaginatively with their friends they have made from school. Children play in various ways according to their age and friendships they have formed. For example, one child happily plays with the small pool table, knocking the balls in the pockets and singing to herself. Other children play cooperatively at the lego table, sharing pieces of lego and finding other shapes for their friends. Other children play team games outside. Children's concentration skills are developing well. They spend long lengths of time at the creative table sticking and tearing tissue to make pictures.

The development of children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities is promoted well. Staff effectively plan play according to the individual needs of the children. They are skilled in organising the day and routine and have a good understating of providing a good range of play activities to support and enhance children's all round development. They are knowledgeable of the interests and skills of the children they care for. This enables children to relax, have fun and enjoy themselves. For example, children have very good fun outside. They play in small groups to participate in activities such as 'cat and mouse' tag game, football, throwing and catching, whilst other children are happy to sit in small groups talking.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are treated equally and included in all activities. A good key worker system in place ensures that information is exchanged effectively and the welfare of children is maintained. Children benefit from this as their individual needs are met. Children are learning about different cultures through accessing a range of books, dressing up and various planned activities. For example, children make a dragon out of art materials and decorate it and play with chopsticks in the imaginative kitchen. Their awareness is effectively being raised of the wider society in which they live. This helps children to have a positive attitude to others and develop good self-esteem. There are sufficient systems in place to meet the needs of children with learning difficulties/or disabilities. The staff are proactive and mindful of the differing degrees of disability and manages these with sensitivity.

Children are very well behaved. They understand what is expected of them. This is because staff give clear and consistent messages enabling children to feel safe and secure. Staff understand and follow effective policies and procedures and have a positive approach to managing a range of children's behaviour. Children are learning to turn take, take responsibility for their actions and increase their awareness of the boundaries and expectations set. For example, when they play on the computer games they know to share the time and help other children through the differing levels on the games.

Good methods are in place for the exchanging of information between staff and parents and carers. Parents and carers have access to the policies and procedures and written information

relating to the service that is offered. This enables them to have a clear understanding of how the business operates and the care given to their children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Effective systems in place ensure children are protected. Thorough methods are used to identify the suitability of staff, such as their knowledge, experience and qualifications. Children are never left alone with unvetted adults because sufficient staff are on duty and understand the importance of protecting children at all times. The organisation of the setting effectively promotes the welfare of the children. Good routines and the well-organised space and resources ensures that children's individual needs are met well. They are cared for in a secure and sound environment. This is because the staff team are effective in their roles and understand their responsibilities.

A good range of policies and procedures underpin the suitable running of the service. Children are cared for in a safe and efficiently run provision where their health, safety and welfare is effectively promoted. Most records are accurate and up to date. However, some accident records do not have sufficient information and detail about the injury that occurred, and the methods used to obtain parents signatures after informing them of such an incident are not always effective. This has the potential to compromise some aspects of children's medical, health and welfare needs. Records are held securely and shared with the parents and carers of the children. Therefore, confidentiality is maintained. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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

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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):

- further improve the area and resources for children who wish to relax
- further improve the methods used to record accidents and the obtaining of parents signatures.

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