



St Benedicts School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY335256
Inspection date	13 February 2007
Inspector	Justine Ellaway
Setting Address	St. Benedict School & Sixth Form Centre, Duffield Road, DERBY, DE22 1JD
Telephone number	01332 554251
E-mail	
Registered person	Amanda Kate Hudson
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?

Allestree Schools Out Holiday Club opened in 2006. It operates from the classroom, main hall and gym within an annex in the grounds of St Benedicts School, Duffield Road, Derby. A maximum of 50 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open during school holidays from 07.00 to 18.00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 200 children aged from three to under eight years on roll. Children come from the local community. The club currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

The club employs ten members of staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications and two are working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy regular opportunities to be active and participate in physical exercise, which effectively promotes development of their physical skills. A variety of outings are planned during each school holiday with a different one each day. Children can go horse riding and swimming as well as on outings to parks and play centres. Children can choose which outings they want to go on which promotes independence. A large hall is set up and supervised during the day so that children can play sports games or ride around on scooters and bikes whenever they want to. The equipment is appropriate for the age and ability of the children attending, providing challenge and enjoyment. Children enjoy the opportunity to be active and frequently play in the hall during the session.

Children stay healthy because practitioners follow current and appropriate environmental health and hygiene guidelines, policies and procedures. The premises are clean and tidy. Children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and after toileting. Staff who prepare food have undertaken food hygiene training. A log of where food is purchased from is kept to promote children's good health.

The risk of infection is minimised and the good health of children maintained as children who are infectious are excluded. Parents are reminded of this in the contract. Children use liquid soap and paper towels for hand washing. The setting has a list of exclusion periods for different types of illnesses in the policies and procedures folder to refer to.

Children receive appropriate care when they have an accident or become ill to maintain their good health as all of the staff are first aid qualified. Accident records are appropriately completed and are signed by parents. Appropriate records are maintained to detail the administering of medication, however the setting seeks permission from parents to administer non-prescription medication at registration rather than each time their child is ill. This does not fully promote children's good health. Written parental permission is requested for emergency medical treatment and advice to ensure children's health needs are met in the event of an emergency.

Children are well nourished with a varied menu which promotes healthy eating. They enjoy toast or cereal for breakfast and are encouraged to eat fruit and vegetables for snack and tea along with the prepared meal, such as sausage and beans. They have independent access to drinks throughout the day. Children's health is promoted as staff refer to the list of dietary needs when preparing meals and offer alternative food which all children can enjoy. Children learn about healthy living through activities and discussion.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment which helps them to feel secure and comfortable. The bright and appealing main room has a very large range of toys and resources laid out for when children arrive. As a result children can immediately begin playing. The space

is very well organised and laid out to allow children room to move around freely and play together. There are separate areas for different types of toys and activities and children are able to play without interruption as they have plenty of space around them.

Children enjoy playing with a very good range of toys and resources, including role play, art and craft, games, books and music. Careful consideration is given to the resources in each area to promote children's enjoyment. For example, the role play hairdressers is well stocked with magazines, tools, robes and dye samples. As a result children engage in play for long periods of time and use their imagination well. The toys and equipment are in good condition and are checked regularly by staff to ensure they are safe for children to use. There are sufficient tables and chairs and they are well laid out so children can sit at different activities, and also have a separate space for eating and drinking.

Children's safety is well promoted. Visitors and parents gain access to the main door by ringing the bell and are greeted by staff. There is good supervision of the children to ensure they are safe at all times. Staff use walkie talkies if they are in a different room and keep in regular contact with others. Children are given clear reminders of the rules and are developing a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe. They listen and line up when they are going on an outing. They understand that they are not allowed to go past any no entry signs within the building.

Children's safety is well promoted when they go on outings. Staff take a register before they go out. They remind children about wearing seatbelts in the bus and make sure everyone is clear before they leave the building. There is a written policy for outings including clear procedures for staff on using the minibus.

Children are protected because staff understand their role in child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary. The written child protection statement contains relevant information.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, comfortable and confident in the friendly and warm environment. They chat to staff and others whilst they are playing and are confident in asking for things they want to do, for example, asking if they can go to a different room.

Children's self-esteem is well promoted. Staff talk to the children in an interested manner. They have friendly conversations with them, such as talking about their favourite television programmes and fully acknowledge children's contributions to discussions. Staff value the children's work. The children have made signs for the outings for the week which are on view for parents and children to see. There is display table where children can display any of their art work until the end of the holiday. As a result children feel pride and a sense of belonging.

Children participate in a very good range of activities and free play opportunities. A detailed plan is developed prior to the start of the week based on current interests and a good balance of different types of activities. Children enjoy spontaneous events, for example, when they

show an interest in something such as a fashion show, staff develop this and the children put on their own fashion show as a performance. Children are always purposefully engaged in play during the session and happily move from one activity to another when they choose to.

Children's social development is well promoted. There is a calm atmosphere and staff fully engage with the children whilst they play. Children play well together in small groups, for example, a group of four children, aged from five to ten years happily played with the shop for a long period of time.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are met to ensure they are fully included in the life of the setting. Children have a choice about what they do during the day and staff consult with them to find out what they would like to do at future holiday schemes. Staff demonstrate an understanding of what the children like to do and are constantly evaluating things to ensure the children are interested in them. Individual statements are obtained from parents of children with special needs, for example, what their routines are and whether any support is needed. Appropriate support is then provided to ensure all children are included.

Children settle well in the setting. They are given good support by staff to do this. Staff acknowledge and comfort children through discussion, for example, children are talking about who they do, and do not, live with and a staff member reassuringly talks about how all families are different.

Children become aware of wider society through a suitable range of resources and activities. The setting covers a whole range of different festivals during the year so that children learn about other cultures and customs such as Buddhism.

Children are encouraged to get involved in things in their area. For example, they get involved in a race for charity and have made a large model and taken this to the local hospital to be displayed on the children's ward. As a result children make a positive contribution to their local community.

Children behave very well. They play well together with each other. They know the rules and expectations, for example, they tell a member of staff when they are going to the toilet or moving rooms. They are clear on the rules of the club which they wrote and which are displayed within the setting. Good behaviour is well promoted as staff are very positive when they talk to children. They use rewards or prizes to encourage this.

Children receive consistent and appropriate care. Staff have established a very good relationship with parents which positively impacts on the care provided for children. Parents are encouraged to meet with staff before the child starts at the setting. Parents happily stay and talk to staff at both arrival and collection times. There is a useful information brochure, along with a very clear and useful website which is constantly updated. There are regular newsletters informing parents and children about the activities planned for the holidays. Parents and children are

regularly invited to contribute any comments or suggestions as they are asked to complete a quarterly questionnaire.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's safety is promoted as all adults working with children have undergone appropriate checks. There are suitable arrangements for the sharing of information by staff, which they do regularly both before and during the session. This positively impacts on the care provided for children. Staff are very well deployed throughout the session. They spend all of their time working with the children. Children get good support and lots of attention.

Good organisation of time, space and resources supports the care provided for children. Each day is very varied with lots of different activities that children can dip in and out of. All of the toys and resources are available for the whole of the session so children can come back to something if they want to.

Policies and procedures work in practice to promote children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. Appropriate documentation is held on file for each child and meets the requirement of the standards. There is a detailed policies and procedures file and all staff are clear where it is and what it contains. 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):

- ensure that parents give permission for each and every occurrence of the administration of medication

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