

St. Anthony's Night Owls

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY343800
Inspection date	21 May 2007
Inspector	Anne Felicity Taylor
Setting Address	Warwickshire County Council, St. Anthonys RC Primary School, Sydenham Drive, LEAMINGTON SPA, Warwickshire, CV31 1NJ
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Registered person	Mary Kay Moran
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St Anthony's Night Owls was registered in 2006 and operates from a library and the hall of St Anthony's primary school. It is situated in the Sydenham area of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. A maximum of 26 children may attend the setting at any one time. The breakfast and after school provision is open on week days from 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:30 to 17:00 in term time. The children have access to the school grounds and playgrounds.

There are currently 16 children aged from four to 11 years on roll. The provision is open to pupils from St Anthony's school and children generally come from the local area. The setting is able to support children with learning difficulties and children with disabilities and also children who speak English as an additional language.

The out of school provision employs two members of staff. The leader holds appropriate qualifications and the other member of staff is starting an Early Years degree.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have easy access to toilet facilities within the school and have developed sound personal hygiene routines. Staff support and encourage these routines, offering help if needed. Children are cared for if they have an accident or become ill because staff are first aid trained and contact details for each child are in place. A fully-stocked first aid box is available. Children's well-being is monitored by staff and appropriate procedures are in place for ensuring parents are informed about their child's welfare and permission for emergency medical treatment is in place.

Children are offered a breakfast of toast and cereal and an after school tea consisting of a variety of toasted snacks and spreads, for example, crumpets and pancakes. They are well hydrated as they can request fruit juice, milk or water at any time. Children's dietary needs are always met as procedures ensure that all staff are clear about any individual needs. There is a risk to safe food storage because refrigeration temperatures are not monitored and recorded.

Children benefit from regular physical play because they use the school grounds and the hall. They enjoy some time outside playing skipping games after tea time snack.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a secure environment with sound procedures in place for children's arrival and departure outside normal school hours. The setting has a dedicated entrance with a door bell and registers are completed promptly and are well-maintained. Children have sufficient space to play indoors and outdoors and to eat breakfast and tea comfortably. Children benefit from the policies and procedures in place which generally ensure they are safe. The procedure for a lost child is not written down and therefore staff may not be fully aware of the procedure to follow. Risk assessments for all areas and activities are in place and reviewed regularly, therefore the staff team have considered fully the risk to the children of an accident or incident at the setting. Children are familiar with evacuation procedures because they practise fire drill regularly. However, a fire-safety log is not in place to meet the requirements of the local fire department.

Children enjoy a range of appropriate play equipment which is well-maintained and cleaned regularly. Children are able to request specific items and activities, helping themselves to resources, for example, a variety of collage materials. They have easy access to a lot of equipment. Staff are deployed well, ensuring children are adequately supervised and supported during play, both indoors and outdoors.

Children's welfare is safeguarded as staff have an acceptable understanding of child protection policies and procedures and are able to recognise abuse and neglect. Sound procedures are in place for appointing new staff and therefore children are cared for by adults who are vetted and have relevant experience, knowledge and skills.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children build strong relationships with the staff team as they are greeted personally by staff and their friends. They respond positively to the calm and happy environment, settling quickly to the activities provided. Children are comfortable to organise their own play, for example, board games. They select their own resources to complete collage pictures with confidence. Children are busy and well-occupied.

Children enjoy being able to choose their play and what to have for breakfast and tea. They chat with friends and staff about their day at school and aspects of their community, developing positive relationships and attitudes. Children talk about events in their families, for example, birthday celebrations and aspects of keeping themselves safe when they are out of school.

Children are proud of creative artwork which is displayed effectively in the setting's base room, for example, pictures to celebrate religious diversity. Older children help younger friends to select materials for collage, therefore developing an awareness of the needs of others. All the children benefit from active physical play indoors and outdoors. They are able to take full advantage of the school grounds, weather permitting.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children develop respectful relationships with each other and the staff. They appreciate the praise they receive for helping each other and for helping with small tasks, for example, tidying up and therefore they behave well. Children's confidence and self-esteem increases as they select activities and talk to staff, voicing their opinions and choices. Children are proud of their work, for example, completed pictures in their folders.

Children are valued as individuals and the policies and procedures in place ensure that all children are included in all activities and that all their needs are met, for example, dietary requirements. They develop an awareness of others as they use books and equipment that reflect positive images of wider society.

Partnership with parents is satisfactory. Relationships are open and friendly and parents appreciate the flexible service offered by the club. The complaints procedure does not include the regulator's contact details and therefore parents do not have this information. Parents discuss all aspects of the care offered, daily events and their child's achievements with staff. Information is provided in the parent's pack and on the notice board.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a safe environment because all the staff complete appropriate recruitment and vetting procedures. Children are supported in their play and recreation because the ratio of staff to children is good. Accurate registers of children and staff are in place and visitors are monitored. This means that the numbers of children and adults present is correct should there be an emergency evacuation. Staff deployment and their awareness of the needs of the children is effective, with safety being a priority. Staff communicate well with parents, ensuring that the children are cared for according to the parent's wishes.

The organisation of the available areas encourages the children to plan their own activities and to make choices. Children request play and staff respond appropriately when they can, for example, for outdoor play. Staff complete short courses, for example, first aid and are encouraged to add to their current qualifications and experience.

All staff and parents have access to all policies and procedures which generally work in practice ensuring children's safety and enjoyment. Parents are asked to provide all the relevant information to ensure the service meets their needs, for example, the days and hours required. 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 satisfactory. 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 all food is stored safely with regard to monitoring refrigeration temperatures
- ensure a fire safety log is in place and maintained
- develop a clear written procedure in the event of a child being lost
- revise the complaints policy to ensure the contact details of the regulator are included.

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