

Lower Peover Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY260582

Inspection date 04 June 2007

Inspector Jane Shaw

Setting Address Lower Peover Primary School, The Cobbles, Lower Peover, Knutsford,
Cheshire, WA16 9PZ

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Registered person Kathryn McIntyre

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?

Lower Peover Kids Club is a privately owned and managed out of school provision, which has been registered since 2003. The club operates from the hall of Lower Peover Primary School, Lower Peover in Cheshire.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the setting at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 08.00 to 09.00 and 15.15 to 18.00 during term time. The club also operates during school holidays and inset days from 08.00 to 18.00. The provision accommodates children who attend Lower Peover and other local schools. All children share access to the school grounds for outdoor play. There are currently 35 children of school age on roll, both under and over the age of eight years.

The registered provider employs four members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications, with one member of staff are working towards a qualification.

The club is a member of 4Children.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's good health is well promoted as a result of the routines and procedures in place. Staff ensure the environment is clean and well maintained, for example, staff sanitise tables and cloths before meals and snacks. Staff wear appropriate protective clothing ensuring children's health during food preparation. Staff have also undertaken food hygiene training and are aware of appropriate procedures during this time. Children are encouraged to develop an understanding of the need to keep themselves healthy as they routinely, or through staff prompting, wash their hands after certain activities and before meals. A sick child policy, which is shared with parents and carers ensures that children are cared for within a healthy and infection free environment.

Children enjoy a range of healthy foods at breakfast and evening snack times. For example, toast using healthy breads, healthy cereals, crumpets and fruit. Children are able to help themselves to a wide variety of fruit continually throughout the session. Children enjoy baking activities and making their own snacks, for example, children create their own pizzas and say that they enjoyed making flapjack very much during the recent school holiday. Parents and carers are asked to supply children with a packed lunch when their children attend during holidays. These are appropriately stored until required. Meal and snack times are socially interactive times with children sitting together with friends 'chatting'. Children have independent access to drinking water at all times, staff encourage children to have a drink when involved in energetic activities or during hot weather.

Staff ensure children are offered regular outdoor play opportunities. Children are able to choose whether to play indoors or outdoors during the session and freely move between both areas. Children enjoy a variety of activities outdoors, for example, using the school adventure play equipment, space hoppers, a variety of bats and balls, and generally having opportunities to run around and 'let off steam'. Children make use of both hard and soft surface areas to play a variety of individual or group games. Staff and children are awaiting the arrival of 'curling' equipment to extend the wide variety of outdoor play equipment. When outdoor play is not possible, staff plan time for large physical activities indoors, such as bowling.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Good use is made of the available space to provide the children attending with access to a variety of activities and opportunities. Staff make good use of the outdoor area to enable children to have outdoor play on a regular basis. The environment is welcoming for children and is brightly decorated with school displays, along with Kids Club screens, which contain examples of children's work. Play space is well prepared by staff and children are seen participating in activities immediately upon arrival.

Children have access to a wide range of good quality toys and equipment. This range is added to on a regular basis, promoting children's continual enjoyment and interest. Equipment is regularly checked to ensure children's health and safety.

Children are cared for within a safe and secure environment. Staff are diligent in ensuring children's safety, regularly checking premises and equipment. Risk assessments and daily checks

are conducted ensuring all areas are safe for children's use, however, rain water grids, close to the door leading to the outdoor play space, are hazardous. The internal premises are safe and secure, and well maintained by school maintenance staff and local authority personnel where applicable. All policies and procedures that relate to children's safety and welfare are in the main in place and shared with parents and carers ensuring they are aware of the club's responsibility to their children. However, the uncollected child procedure lacks some detail in relation to the steps to be followed in the event of this occurring.

Children's safety and welfare is carefully considered by staff who have a good understanding of child protection procedures, and are clear about their responsibility in ensuring children are protected. Appropriate policies and procedures are in place, and staff have recently updated their training in this area. The club's child protection policy is available for parents and carers to view at all times along with other policies and procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have access to and enjoy a wide range of activities and opportunities on a daily basis. Activities are planned in advance, but these plans are flexible and can be changed to meet the children's individual interests, moods, and in response to other issues, such as the weather. Activities are varied and exciting and enjoyed by the children. Children confirm that they enjoy their time at the club, they have fun, feel the resources are good and they particularly like being able to use the 'wish board' to make suggestions about activities.

Children are happy and settled, upon arrival they immediately involve themselves in the activities and equipment set out. Children are well behaved and show consideration to one another as they play cooperatively at activities, such as imaginary play taking turns to act out particular roles, as they take turns to use the computer and as they make new members feel welcome.

Children are able to make choices about activities, both future activities, and those offered during sessions. Children are also able to relax and join in activities at their pace. Children have the opportunity to be involved in group games, active physical play outdoors or to be quiet and read, and to complete homework, if they wish to.

A good range of toys and resources support children's activities and interests. This range is added to on a regular basis and staff consult with children regarding additional items.

Children have regular opportunities to be involved in outdoor activities using the school outdoor play space. These activities are supported by good resources and children choose activities and equipment. Children are involved in growing vegetables and flowers in their outdoor garden plot, and nurturing sunflower seeds indoors.

Activities offered include a variety of play experiences, for example, quiet activities, such as reading, imaginary play using a variety of small world resources, construction and craft activities. Displays show children have created their own treasure maps. Children's spontaneous craft activities are supported, for example, a small group make a guitar. Children enjoy baking activities, making pizzas and cakes.

Children are happy and well supported by staff who join in with activities. They receive praise for their efforts, attempts and good behaviour, which promotes their enjoyment and achievement.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed into the club. On a daily basis children make a contribution to the session, by making choices about activities, toys and equipment to be offered, and use a 'wish board' to make suggestions about future activities. Good relationships with the school have been formed and both work well together to support children. Children have access to a variety of resources from within the club and school to support and promote their understanding of diversity. Staff and children join in activities planned to promote an understanding of other cultures and the wider world. For example, children taste fruits from around the world, and celebrate a variety of festivals, such as Chinese New Year.

Staff gather relevant information regarding children's individual needs and specific requirements, through discussion with parents and carers and the completion of enrolment forms. This enables staff to plan the environment and activities to support children and to enable them to be included in all aspects of the provision.

Children's behaviour is exemplary, they are polite and well mannered and show consideration for one another, for example, as they welcome new children attending for the first time. They are encouraged to, and are able to share and take turns with toys, equipment and opportunities, for example, children take turns to use the computer. Staff are good role models for the children, they communicate effectively with one another and all children. Staff spend time listening to children as they talk about their day at school, their interests and as they make suggestions about play and activities. As a result, children feel consulted about their club, they are happy, settled and actively engaged in the activities offered.

Children's placements are supported by good partnerships with parents and carers. Staff gather relevant information about children's needs and requirements ensuring their safety, well-being and enjoyment. Staff give regular verbal feedback to parents and carers on their child's time at the club, and any information passed to them from school as they collect their child from the setting. During the inspection communication between staff, parents and carers was seen to be friendly and appropriate. An information booklet is available for parents and carers, along with a separate policies and procedures file.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

All appropriate vetting has been completed on staff working either on a permanent or on a relief basis, therefore, children are cared for within a safe environment. The registered provider is aware of the recent changes in legislation, the need to undertake her own vetting and to follow appropriate recruitment and selection procedures. However, formal application forms, medical forms and other relevant documentation is not yet in place, as it has not to date been necessary to appoint new staff. The registered provider retains appropriate information on all staff working within the setting and has an appropriate induction procedure.

Children are cared for by staff who are qualified and experienced in working with children. Staff access additional training to enhance their existing skills and knowledge, and to keep up to date with childcare initiatives. Staff are qualified in first aid, ensuring any accidents or incidents to children are dealt with in a prompt and appropriate manner. Staff discuss issues informally during sessions and meet regularly to discuss activities and planning. The registered provider has used the self evaluation form with staff to evaluate the provision and has introduced peer

on peer reviews. The available space is well organised and prepared on a daily basis, offering children access to a variety of planned and spontaneous activities both in and out of doors.

All legally required documentation which contributes to the children's health, safety, well-being and enjoyment is in place.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Following the last inspection, one recommendation was made, which was to ensure that there is always one member of staff on the premises who is qualified in first aid. Staff working with children on a regular basis are all now qualified in paediatric first aid, ensuring there is always a member of staff present with appropriate training.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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 complaint 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 rain water grids in the outdoor play space are made safe, and amend the uncollected child procedure to include the steps to be followed in the event of this occurring
- develop a staff recruitment system.

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