

# Taylor Grangers

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY269551
<b>Inspection date</b>	02 May 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Shirley Maynard
<b>Setting Address</b>	Richard Taylor C of E School, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3DT
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<b>Registered person</b>	The Grange Partnership
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Taylor Grangers Out of School Club has been registered since September 2003. It is privately owned and managed by The Grange Partnership and operates from the Richard Taylor C of E School on the outskirts of Harrogate. The club is registered to care for 24 children and there are currently 82 children on roll, of these 40 are under the age of eight years. The club has access to the school hall, a classroom and storage area. They also have full use of the school playing field and playground for outdoor play. The group directly serves the children of the school. It is open during term time only between the hours of 15.00 and 18.00. There are four part time staff working with the children. The manager has an appropriate Level 3 early years qualification and the other staff members have a Level 1 or 2 in Playwork.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children at the club enjoy good health and learn about healthy lifestyles through the regular routines of the session. For example, staff remind children to wash their hands before snack time and supply appropriate resources for them to use. The club provides very nutritious and

healthy snacks, for instance, cheese spread or butter and crackers, carrot, strips of coloured peppers and cucumber and cherry tomatoes. Children's independence is developed as they butter their crackers and help themselves to fresh drinking water which is available throughout the session. Children greatly enjoy the social aspect of eating together as they discuss what foods are good for them and why. Many children comment that the food is one of the things they enjoy most about the club.

A comprehensive range of policies and procedures is in place to protect the children's well-being, such as an effective sickness and exclusion policy. Staff have obtained prior written consent from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment and staff have current first aid certificates so children's health is protected in an emergency or if they suddenly become unwell.

Children greatly benefit from regular opportunities to take part in physical activities and enjoy the fresh air. Most evenings there are activities available outside in the school playground. They really enjoy playing football, using the skipping ropes and stilts and taking part in bat and ball games. Children confidently discuss why exercise is good for them. Inside, they enjoy a range of activities to develop their hand-eye coordination, for example, constructing the castle tent and tunnel, cutting at the craft table and all children thoroughly enjoy the peg puzzle that when ironed by a member of staff, melts into a mat. The children proudly take these home, and so are developing their individual feelings of self worth. There are opportunities within the setting for children to have quiet time or rest periods using a selection of comfortable floor cushions.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

The out of school club operates from a large hall within a primary school where staff make good use of the space available. Most hazards have been risk assessed and these risks minimised. The emergency evacuation procedure is practised at regular intervals, which ensures both staff and children are fully aware of the correct procedures to be followed. Gentle reminders from staff during their daily routines, for example, not to run inside and limiting the numbers of children using certain resources such as the castle tent and tunnel, reduce the risk of accidents. Children regularly use the school playground for outdoor play. Staff ensure these areas are always safe and children vigilantly supervised.

Children are able to move freely and independently as the lay out of the club is effectively organised. There is a good selection of appropriate size furniture for the children to play, rest and eat in comfort. Resources and toys are accessible to children and the room lay out enables children to enjoy a variety of activities. The resources are rotated every month across the other out of school clubs within the company and this ensures the children do not become bored. Children also request certain resources and play items they have particularly enjoyed, such as the picnic food which the older children thoroughly enjoying using throughout the inspection. As a result, children are involved in the planning of sessions and their individual preferences are positively promoted by staff.

Information regarding the collection of children is obtained in advance from parents. Staff record arrival times and parents take responsibility to sign their child out at the end of their session. There are also clear staff attendance records. Children's safety is further enhanced by rigorous use of both the visitors book and visitor identification badges. Children are well protected by staff who are very familiar with the setting's child protection procedures. The staff demonstrate a good level of knowledge and have a sound understanding of their individual

roles and responsibility. They know how to record and report any concern appropriately if the need arises.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children say they are very happy to attend the out of school club. Parents comment on the wide range of interesting activities provided which successfully meet the needs and interests of all children attending. On the whole, children remain focused at activities of their own choosing for prolonged periods of time. For example, in the role play area, children's imagination is developed as they enthusiastically use the dressing up clothes. Generally, staff plan the activities in advance and these are linked to a theme. Children regularly contribute their ideas and are positively encouraged to request activities or one of the themed boxes, for instance, 'The Wild West'. Staff are skilful at changing or adapting activities, therefore insuring activities and resources reflect children's individual interests and abilities.

The children are cared for in an environment where staff deployment enables them to benefit from good quality care and support. Staff sit with children and take a great interest in what they say and there are genuinely warm relationships between them. Children readily approach the staff for help and support, for example, when playing one of the extensive board games or when requiring help with constructing the tent and tower. Children respond well to challenges and learn new skills and games such as table tennis. Staff give regular praise and encouragement, promoting children's individual self esteem and confidence.

Children's emotional well-being is enhance because the staff know the children very well, for example, they ask about their families, friends and interests. When children first enter the hall, staff greet them all individually and ask relevant questions, for example, they ask about a family member's birthday or when a child has been poorly they ask 'are you feeling better today?'

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed and play a full part in the club. All children have equal access to the toys and equipment which meet their individual needs so they can become confident and independent. On the whole, children behave and their understanding of responsible behaviour is promoted by staff's use of praise and encouragement. Staff are on hand to listen to children and value what they say, they are polite to them and each other, so are acting as good role models. As a result, children feel valued and develop positive relationships with each other and the staff.

Children learn about diversity through their everyday activities as the company has a broad range of themed boxes which are rotated around the out of school clubs every few weeks. There is also an appropriate range of books, dressing up clothes and puzzles. Children enjoy celebrating festivals, such as Easter and Chinese New Year, and this enables them to learn about diversity from first hand experiences. However, the resources that reflect positive images of disability are very limited and as a result, children do not fully benefit from resources which are free from stereotypical images and promote anti discriminatory practice.

Parents receive a comprehensive information booklet before their children start at the out of school club, which includes their individual personal and medical needs. Staff are very friendly and parents comment on how well informed they are with all aspects of the out of school club.

A verbal exchange with parents on collection of children ensures changing needs are mainly met. However, staff need to revise the current procedure for recording complaints in order to meet mandatory registration requirements. The club also operates a drop in breakfast club on the premises, and during school holidays children regularly access a nearby holiday club which offers continuity of care as the staff also work there and parents say they feel confident in the care as the policies and procedures are implemented across the company as a whole. This also ensures the children have a secure sense of belonging.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for by an experienced staff team who display a sound understanding of child development, many of who have worked for the company for a number of years. Good organisation of the staff rota and supply cover helps to ensure that very good ratios are constantly maintained. Staff support each other in the sessions and provide an effective range of stimulating and exciting activities which contribute to children's individual development.

Most of the policies and procedures are relevant and contribute to the smooth running of the provision and ensure children's health, safety and enjoyment. This is further enhanced by robust recruitment and vetting procedures which ensures children are well protected. Staff are very clear about their individual roles and responsibilities. The range of policies and procedures is mainly displayed for parents, and readily available for all to read. However, the uncollected and lost child policy needs to be updated in line with current requirements.

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

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the provider was asked to: ensure that there are clear written consents from parents or carers for the administration of medicines; ensure that the child protection statement includes the contact names and telephone numbers for the local police and children's services, and the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff; and ensure that snacks are healthy and nutritious.

The out of school club has made good progress. All parents sign on a daily basis to acknowledge that medication has been administered, and there is an appropriate child protection statement which includes the contact names and telephone numbers for the local police and children's services. The procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff are also documented ensuring that children are well protected. The snacks provided for children are now a strength of the setting and children positively benefit from fresh fruit and vegetables and access to drinking water throughout the session.

## **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 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):

- develop play materials which reflect positive images disability
- revise the complaints procedure for parents in order to meet mandatory registration requirements
- ensure the uncollected child or lost child policy is in line with the current requirements.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)