

Goulton Grange Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY291063
Inspection date	30 April 2007
Inspector	Josephine Ann Northend
Setting Address	Goulton Grange Farm, Potto, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 3HP
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Registered person	Marian Joan Cornforth
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?

Goulton Grange Day Nursery has been registered since August 2004 to a private provider. It operates from a large, newly refurbished barn on a family-run farm near the village of Potto in North Yorkshire. A maximum of 40 children under eight years may attend the nursery at any one time. The provision operates for 51 weeks of the year during weekdays from 07.00 to 18.00. There are two playrooms for children and a separate sleep room. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area that has safety surface and large play equipment fixed in place.

There are currently 60 children on roll from five months to five years; attending for a variety of sessions. The facility serves both the local and wider community. There are systems in place to support children with physical disabilities or learning difficulties.

The proprietor/manager of the nursery was a registered childminder for 17 years. A total of 14 members of staff including the manager are employed to work directly with the children. Eight members of staff have a child care qualification and have attended other related training courses.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean and well maintained environment. They learn the importance of good hygiene practices and personal care within their everyday routines, for example, they wash their hands and learn about why they need to do so. There are clear accident recording systems, however, the procedures for recording medication does not include parents signing to acknowledge the record after medication has been administered. The implementation of a clear sick child policy, promotes the environment as a healthy one.

Good provision is made for children to take part in physical activity. They play outdoors each day and go for walks in the local area. This enables children to learn that exercise is an important part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The children have use of a fully enclosed outdoor playing area where they enjoy climbing, riding bicycles and using other large equipment.

Children benefit from being offered healthy meals and snacks. They are offered a variety of snacks including healthy options. Children's allergies and special dietary needs are discussed with parents prior to their placement commencing and staff are aware of this information. Drinks are freely available throughout the day. The nursery provides children with a healthy home cooked meal and with an emphasis on organic produce. This means children remain healthy.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment. Furniture and resources are well presented to allow children safe and easy access to them. The environment is generally safe and secure and most electric sockets that are accessible to children are protected. Procedures are in place to protect children when they play outdoors, for example, a safety surface to protect children if they fall and high staffing ratio to ensure children are supervised well.

Equipment is stored well, children are fully aware of what is available and a good range is set out to allow children to make choices for themselves and direct their own play. The toys available are suitable for the ages of children attending and are in sufficient quantities to ensure children enjoy a wide range of activities to promote all areas of their development.

Staff have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a child protection concern. All the required documentation, records and procedures are in place to ensure the children's welfare is safeguarded. This means children are well protected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the nursery, they arrive happy and eager to participate. Close and caring relationships with staff increase the children's sense of trust and help them develop a strong sense of self. Communication skills with children are well supported through good adult-to-child interactions.

A varied and interesting programme of activities is planned around the 'Birth to three matters' programme and the Foundation Stage. Activities and play opportunities are purposeful and developmentally appropriate resulting in children being motivated and interested. This is evident in the planning of activities and the record of children's achievements. Children engage well in their chosen activities creating a calm, industrious atmosphere.

There are clear settling in procedures for children in place, this includes gaining information from parents about their child's routines and care. Staff are sensitive to and meet children's individual needs appropriately. Children behave well and are developing some sense of right and wrong. They respond well to staff who explain why they should not do something.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children enjoy good relationships with staff and each other. They are happy and relaxed within the nursery environment. They develop self-esteem and confidence as they freely make choices and decisions. Children access a varied range of activities and resources which increase their awareness of diversity.

Children are well behaved. Staff manage behaviour well, promoting children's self-esteem and confidence by giving appropriate and sincere praise and encouragement. There are clear systems in place to support children with physical disabilities or learning difficulties and staff work with parents to ensure individual needs are met.

Partnership with parents is friendly. Parent's views about their children's needs are actively sought before the child starts nursery. They receive written information about the setting. Verbal and written information about their child's progress and nursery day is shared with parents. This enables staff to meet each child's individual needs.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The registered person uses effective recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified. Children benefit from qualified and skilled staff who are effectively inducted. Adult-child ratios are above the minimum recommended, ensuring children's individual needs are met.

Documentation required for the safe and efficient management of the provision is in place, however, the attendance registers for children and staff do not consistently show the times of their attendance. Although there have been no complaints made about the provision, there is a system in place to log these should any complaints arise. Policies and procedures are used effectively to promote the care and welfare of children and are shared with parents, to keep them well informed. 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 improve documentation in relation to the recruitment and vetting of staff, uncollected child policy and the complaints policy. The provider was also asked to improve procedures to ensure children have frequent interaction with a consistent adult.

Documentation has improved, there are now clear staff recruitment and vetting procedures in place and written procedures are in place if a child is not collected. This means the welfare of children is promoted. The complaints policy now clearly includes Ofsted telephone number, although the address is not yet included. However, the Ofsted poster is clearly displayed in the entrance for parents attention. This means parents are aware of who to contact in the event of a concern.

A key worker system has been established for all children attending the nursery. This means they all have frequent interaction with a consistent key adult throughout their day.

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):

- ensure parents sign to acknowledge the record of any medication administered to children
- improve attendance records for staff and children to clearly show times of their attendance.

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