

Rook's Nest Early Birds

Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | EY341845 |
| Inspection date | 26 April 2007 |
| Inspector | Maralyn Chiverton |
| Setting Address | Rooks Nest Primary School, Rooks Nest Road, Outwood, WAKEFIELD, West Yorkshire, WF1 3DX |
| Telephone number | 01924 303835 |
| E-mail | |
| Registered person | Rook's Nest Early Birds |
| Type of inspection | Childcare |
| Type of care | Full day 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 outstanding. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Rook's Nest Early Birds provides before and after school as well as school holidays from Rooks Nest Primary School, situated in Outwood, near Wakefield. It was registered in November 2006 and a voluntary committee made up of staff, parents and school governors run the provision.

The provision operates from four rooms, including the school hall. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. A maximum of 50 children may attend at any one time. At present there are 125 children on roll. The provision is open each weekday from 08.00 to 09.00 during term time and from 15.15 to 18.00. During school holidays the provision is open from 08.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday.

The setting supports children with learning difficulties or disabilities.

Five staff work with the children during term time and 10 staff during school holidays. Of these the majority have a recognised playwork and early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children are cared for in environment which is exceptionally clean. They thrive because staff give the utmost priority to ensuring children's physical, nutritional and health needs are well met through the implementation of excellent policies, procedures and consistently high standards of health and hygiene. For example, staff use disposable aprons and gloves when preparing meals, they use a fridge thermometer and all have attended a food hygiene course. All staff are made fully aware of their roles, responsibilities and obligations to ensure children are kept healthy. Children have excellent opportunities to learn and understand about healthy living and the importance of fresh fruit and vegetables through daily routines and topic work.

Staff are very pro-active in helping children gain an excellent understanding of healthy eating, fresh air and exercise. For example, the children are very knowledgeable about which foods are good or bad for them. They are offered nutritious meals, such as a wide choice of cereals, fresh fruit, rice cakes and peppers. Children have daily access to a large outdoor area to promote their enjoyment of physical exercise as well as regular visits from a qualified gym instructor and local Majorettes. Exceptional comfortable seating is available for rest and relaxation. Children competently use a dispenser to freely access drinking water throughout the session. They are kept free from infection through the implementation of a detailed sick child policy which effectively minimises the risk of cross-infection from illness. Any child taken ill is well cared for until parents arrive.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children are kept very safe in welcoming premises that have a high level of security at all times. A key pad system with coded numbers ensures unauthorised persons are unable to enter. Risks of accidental injury to children are effectively minimised through the implementation of well written risk assessments to reduce potential hazards. Staff are well trained in health and safety and are extremely vigilant and observant. They use constant reminders and planned activities to promote children's understanding of personal safety. For example, children are asked to complete a story about two children going to school through filling in the blank spaces. This promotes well their understanding of road safety. Children have a very good awareness and understanding of the procedures to follow in case of a fire through the regular practise of emergency fire evacuation.

Children are empowered to take responsibility for their own safety and display an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe. They describe with clarity how they tidy away to prevent other children falling over and hurting themselves. Children are provided with an exceptionally high standard of high quality furniture, toys and equipment that are safe, suitable and purposeful. These are stored attractively in low-level shelving which allows children to self-select with safety and independence. Staff use a two-way radio when children are playing out. This allows them to know when a child is coming out or coming in. Children's welfare is very well protected through the highly comprehensive knowledge and understanding of all staff members with regard to child protection issues.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children relish their time in the setting. They have an outstanding attitude to learning and are very happy, settled and purposefully engaged in their play. Children benefit from the expertise of highly skilled staff who constantly promote their learning through daily routines as well as a highly innovative range of exciting and inspiring activities and experiences. These include designing T-shirts, learning French and choosing creative activities. For example, children themselves designed the front cover of the parent information booklet. Children are involved in the planning of activities. They complete questionnaires which ask for ideas to improve the provision and what activities they would like to see offered. All planning is evaluated to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of planned activities.

Children are confident to participate in new experiences and are very supportive of each other. They benefit from dynamic and enthusiastic staff who actively contribute to children's learning which enhances all aspects of the provision. Children play well together in groups and independently. They particularly enjoy taking part in the daily quiz, colouring in and baking. Extremely close and caring relationships between staff and children develop their self-esteem and promote a very strong sense of self. Children are extremely confident and self-assured. They relate extremely well to each other and have a very good understanding of right and wrong. The setting is committed to meeting the individual needs of all children. The welfare of the children is central to the provision of care, learning and play.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children benefit from an environment which is rich in promoting the wider world through bright, colourful, displays depicting other countries in a very positive way. They are welcomed and play an extensive and full role in the setting through the excellent high regard and value staff place on children's individuality. Children's behaviour is exemplary, they take turns, support one another well, and understand that 'sharing is part of caring'. They take responsibility for their own behaviour through the high expectations of staff and consistent boundaries. Their understanding of right and wrong is fostered in an atmosphere of caring and respect. The very positive attitude of all staff and an excellent range of resources promote well children's understanding of diversity.

Partnership with parents is excellent. Parents' wishes and views are respected, actively sought and used in decision making. They feel very involved in the daily life of the setting and their children. They are encouraged to use a comments book to write their views. These include children showing lots of enthusiasm, being fully occupied by professional staff that enjoy what they do as well as children arriving home exhausted but very, very happy. Parents receive a well written, informative booklet which includes quality information on how the provision is run. Information is shared on a regular basis to ensure the individual needs of children are well met.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

Children benefit from an excellent well managed and organised provision. They access all toys and activities freely and independently through well utilised space and effective deployment

of staff, resources and equipment. There are excellent contingency plans in place to cover for staff absences to ensure there is always a good adult child ratio and consistency of care. Highly, effective use of very detailed policies and procedures ensures children's care, safety and welfare is well promoted and the provision runs smoothly and efficiently. All staff are motivated and enthusiastic, they are fully aware of their role and responsibilities. Staff are highly skilled and actively contribute and involve themselves in children's learning which provides an excellent contribution to children's, enjoyment, achievement, and the ability to take an active part in the setting.

The majority of staff have a recognised early years qualification and take part in a continuous programme of training and self-development, which ensures children receive optimum care and attention. Children are fully supported in reaching their full potential. Staff work exceedingly well in partnership with parents to ensure all children's individual needs are met. Parents receive very good information about the provision and are encouraged to add any comments of their own. They are welcomed and greeted by all staff when they drop off and collect their child. They are very happy with the provision provided and are kept very well informed of their children's progress through verbal communication.

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

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 outstanding. 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

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

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