

Ribby with Wrea After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY240032
Inspection date	24 April 2007
Inspector	Joan, Patricia Flowers
Setting Address	Dubside, Wrea Green, Preston, Lancashire, PR4 2WQ
Telephone number	01772 685 221
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Registered person	Ribby with Wrea After School Club
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?

Ribby with Wrea Out of School Club was registered in October 2003 and operates from Ribby with Wrea Primary School. It is located in a residential area in the centre of Wrea Green village. The provision serves children who attend the school. Children have access to the school hall and the adjacent Year1/Year 2 classroom. Children have access to the school playgrounds at the front and rear of the school.

The club is registered to provide care for 40 children aged between three years and eight years. There are currently 86 children on roll of whom, 37 are aged under eight. The children attend a variety of sessions in a week. The club supports children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

The club is open five days a week during term time only from 15:30 to 17:30. There are five members of staff who work with the children, four of whom have early years qualifications to level three and one to level two. The club is a member of Kinderquest 4Children and support and training is received from the local authority Sure Start development team.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children benefit from having a nutritious and healthy snack each afternoon after school. Generous amounts of pre-prepared food ensure children's hunger is satisfied until they get home. The weekly menu, which children consult, is varied and includes things like cereal, toast, sandwiches and fruit. Children also have opportunities to discover new tastes, such as when they undertook a topic about fruit and discovered the delights of litchis. All the food offered is freshly prepared each evening and planned in advance. Individual children's dietary needs are taken into account thus ensuring children remain healthy and well nourished. Snack times are a good social occasion where children sit together in self-chosen groups, chatting and laughing. Children learn about what constitutes a healthy diet and generated a graph which is displayed showing favourite fruits. They are offered drinks at snack time from a choice of water, diluted fruit juice or milk and can help themselves to water at all other times. Children are hence well hydrated to promote their good health.

Children's physical health is promoted well, with regular opportunities available for them to engage in activities outside on the school playground. At such times they enjoy running around playing football and use other resources, such as the giant outdoor snakes and ladders game and skipping ropes. Children continue to practice their finer physical skills during a wide range of indoor creative activities, such as observational painting and when they construct detailed mosaic patterns with small tiles.

Children are protected from infection well because the staff pay good attention to cleanliness and hygiene. The staff at the club are effective in ensuring that the table surfaces are wiped clean before and after snack times, so the risk of cross contamination is reduced effectively. When children are unwell, consents, policies and procedures are all in place appropriately, therefore, children's best interests are always a priority. When accidents occur, children receive appropriate care from the designated staff member who holds a valid first aid certificate. This ensures that children's continued well-being is promoted. First aid kits are available readily for use indoors and when children are playing outside. Some items in one kit however, do not conform to the current first aid kit contents guidance.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The children are cared for in an environment where their overall safety is promoted well. They can move around freely and safely because the staff maintain a well organised environment in which children can make choices and decisions about their play. Children talk about their understanding of how to play safely when they use large equipment, such as the table football game, which they demonstrate skilfully as they take their turn. There are clear risk assessments carried out to ensure that children are kept safe both indoors and when playing outside on the playground. Very good levels of supervision by staff further enhance this and together with the children's understanding of the club's rules their safety is encouraged.

The club's environment is welcoming, well planned and effective in meeting the needs of the children who attend. Children can move freely from each activity area within the hall and enjoy making choices from the excellent range of safe and appropriate toys and equipment on offer. These are all organised and presented to promote and develop children's independence safely.

Children's sense of belonging is fostered in this close school community. Children see their project work displayed alongside other school displays in the hall to provide them with a sense of identity and pride.

Children are safeguarded because the staff are secure in their understanding of local child protection procedures and the action they would need to take should they be concerned about a child in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children are settled and very confident in the setting. They enjoy and achieve because the staff are skilled at using their knowledge to plan interesting, challenging and achievable activities for children of all ages. The children are well occupied and enjoy making choices, promoting their independence. For example, they move freely from one activity to another and help set out some of the afternoon's activities. Children confidently make decisions about what they are going to do and have a go at things they perhaps have not before, safe in the knowledge that staff are on hand to help them. Some children complete homework tasks before relaxing into the afternoon's activities. Staff praise the children's achievements frequently, thereby fostering their self-esteem and confidence.

There is a broad range of interesting and stimulating activities for children to choose from. A good balance exists between free play and adult-initiated activities. Staff enable children to play and learn independently and to explore their own ideas in creative art activities and drama. Observational drawing and painting of a vase of Gerbera flowers engrossed some children while others concentrated on making their mosaic design coasters. Children are supported during their time in the club by staff who sit with them, talking about their day and encouraging them to make the most of the activities. As a result, good relationships with the children are formed. Children said how much they enjoy attending the club and readily spoke about what they like doing.

The children are enthusiastic and actively engage themselves in all aspects of the club. They seek out play opportunities that are of interest to them and giggle, laugh and smile as they interact with their friends. Children's social needs and social skills are therefore catered for in a positive and encouraging environment after school. Older children interact well with younger children, thereby building a strong community within the club where children feel happy and relaxed.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Because staff have high expectations of the children and there are clear rules and boundaries for children to follow, they display and practice excellent behaviour, are cooperative and are very well mannered. They are both kind and considerate as they play together sharing and taking turns. Staff take time to gently remind children to act in a sensible way and to apologise if this is needed in any given situation. Children, hence learn about how their actions can affect others. Older children show obvious pleasure in helping the younger ones as they play side by side in shared games and activities. This effectively boosts children's feelings of confidence and security and helps them to make a positive contribution to their own and others development.

Parents are informed of the club's policies and procedures when they enrol their child at the club. Written information is provided that reinforces the initial discussions held at enrolment so that children can join in and feel welcome right from the start. Children's individual needs are taken into account by the staff, thereby ensuring each child's care needs and interests are best met according to individual circumstances. Opportunities are provided for parents to discuss their child at any time so that the needs of each child can be met effectively.

All children who attend are welcomed and enjoy their time in the setting because staff value and respect their individuality. Children are encouraged to develop positive attitudes about diversity and equality of opportunity through the activities and resources that are planned and available to them at each session. Children celebrate different festivals such as Chinese New Year as well as Christmas and Easter. Children are able to experience a positive view of the wider world when they use resources and books that depict images of other people's differences and similarities. The inclusive club community encourages all children to feel valued and respected.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children feel secure and settled within this familiar and welcoming school environment. There are effective and clear policies in place to ensure the smooth running of the club's organisation, although some information has been omitted from one policy and another policy contains out-of-date information. The club's documents are shared with staff and parents alike and are readily available during each session for reference, apart from the current Public Liability Insurance Certificate which was stored elsewhere off the premises. Information is appropriately shared and confidentiality is acknowledged and maintained very well, thereby children and parent's privacy is assured. Precise attention is paid at every session to the maintaining of the attendance register and the monitoring of children's movements within the club.

Staff are suitably deployed within the setting, therefore, children are well supported in their play and learning. The predominantly qualified staff team all show a strong commitment to providing children with opportunities to learn new skills and gain knowledge and confidence. Activities are planned and delivered effectively to promote children's enjoyment and continued learning. The organisation of the setting effectively allows children to move between activities and self-select resources easily and appropriately. There is a clear structure to the afternoon's routine, whilst also providing a flexible approach according to daily circumstances and children's needs. In this way children can gain maximum enjoyment and benefit from their time spent at the club.

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 one action and two recommendations were made to improve the childcare provided at Ribby with Wrea after school club.

The areas in question for improvement, included informing Ofsted (the regulator), of changes to the staff team, and submitting the required forms for the subsequent vetting process to be completed. The recommendations made were to develop understanding and knowledge of local child protection procedures and to make changes to the wording of the child protection policy. To ensure that the fire drill record is more detailed; that child accident records are recorded to

maintain confidentiality; risk assessments are completed and recorded and lastly that the complaints policy includes the name and address of the regulator.

During the intervening period, the provider addressed all the areas highlighted for improvement. As a result, children are cared for in a safer environment by better informed staff. Confidentiality of individual children's information is assured and changes have been made to policy wording and the details recorded in the fire drill log record. Parents are provided with information about the regulator although this information is still not reflected in the complaints policy and the child protection policy contains out of date information, reflected in further recommendations being made.

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 that evidence of Public Liability Insurance is available during the club's operating hours, and the child protection policy and the complaints policy contain the name, address and telephone number of the regulator
- review the contents of the first aid boxes to ensure that all items conform to the guidance determined in the first aid training course.

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