

Schools Out Navigation Primary School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY344196
Inspection date	16 April 2007
Inspector	Lynda, Margaret Ronan
Setting Address	Navigation Primary School, Hawarden Road, ALTRINCHAM, Cheshire, WA14 1NG
Telephone number	0161 980 0488
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Registered person	Elmscot Day Nursery Ltd
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Schools Out (Navigation Road) has been registered since 2006. The facility is one of six childcare facilities registered to Elmscot Day Nursery Limited. The setting is based at Navigation Road Primary School in the Altrincham district of Trafford.

The group provides out of school day care for a maximum of 24 children, all of whom attend Navigation Primary School. There are currently 49 children aged from three to under 12 years on roll. Children attend on a sessional basis. The facility is open from 08.00 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday, term time only. Children have access to a base room, the school hall and toilet facilities. Children are able to participate in outdoor and physical play activities in the enclosed school playground.

The setting currently supports a number of children with special educational needs, and a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

Schools Out (Navigation Road) employs four staff. The manager and two staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is protected by good hygiene routines that are consistently applied. Children are made aware of the necessity to wash their hands and automatically follow good hygiene routines themselves, such as washing their hands or using the wipes supplied, before eating.

There are very secure systems for recording children's medical needs and the administration of any medication. These are kept confidentially on each child's file. All staff are qualified in first aid which helps to ensure children's well-being. However, the group have not sought explicit permission to seek emergency treatment for children and this may cause unnecessary distress for children in an emergency situation.

Children's growth and well-being is very well supported by a healthy diet of wholesome foods prepared daily by Elmscot Nursery. Children actively learn about diet through planned activities, such as food tasting sessions and they have created an informative wall display of imaginative stories and artwork explaining the benefits of fresh fruit. Children look forward to their snacks, excitedly consulting the menu as they enter the setting and stating they enjoy the food at the setting. Snack time is a social occasion and staff take the opportunity to chat with children and find out about their day. Staff, in this way, skilfully support children's emotional well-being.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are kept safe by the staff who check the environment before children access it. Staff give the safety of children good emphasis, for example, the help of the Fire Service has been sought in devising an escape plan and staff have identified difficulties during practice drills and taken immediate positive action to remove risks. The building and grounds are secure as all entrances to the building and playground are kept locked. The group have sole use of a base room and access to the school hall and playground. Occasionally the playground space is shared with other clubs, for example, the football club. On these occasions, Schools Out staff closely supervise the children at the out of school club although they have not completed a formal risk assessment of this situation.

The building is bright, clean and well appointed, with children's work displayed to provide a welcoming atmosphere. The toys and equipment available to the children are of good quality and are well maintained. Some of the equipment is stored in moveable storage units independently accessible to the children, which supports their ability to choose and make decisions. All equipment is stored in the room for easy access and good storage space enables the group to provide ample space for children to move and play in. Children who are tired or wish to relax do not have a comfortable area or furniture in which to do so.

Children are safeguarded as staff have an understanding of signs which might indicate abuse and are aware of procedures to take, should they have any concerns. The visitors book, part of the procedures to safeguard children, is not a complete record of all visitors.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy in the setting, they arrive chattering happily, know the routine and are secure and confident. They talk naturally with staff and ask for and receive help as required, for example, in reaching resources. Many resources are independently accessible.

The staff plan suggested activities and seek children's ideas through discussion, a notice board with 'post its' for suggestions and a children's survey. The session is structured, however staff show flexibility in allowing children to continue to play outside for longer than planned as children are keen to do so.

Older children playing outside are interested in the sports equipment provided and are actively engaged in their play. Some of the younger children ignore the equipment and invent an imaginative game of their own; there are no toys or equipment outside to help them to extend their imaginative play.

Children are supported to experiment with a wide variety of craft materials and techniques. They, for example, make snowmen from marshmallows and a pig using origami techniques. Children also benefit from planned opportunities, such as science workshops, cookery workshops, dance and karaoke workshops also music and quiz nights.

Children were busy and interested throughout the session.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children behave well in the relaxed atmosphere of the setting. Staff recognise the importance of rewarding good behaviour with praise. They positively encourage good behaviour, for example, through rewarding a kind act with a raffle ticket. A small prize is awarded each week at a raffle draw.

Children are well known to the staff who collect and record all the necessary information to allow them to meet individual needs. Children are treated as individuals. Staff are able to describe how they adapt their practice to accommodate and include all the children attending the club. Children have some opportunities to learn about differences through planned activity, such as tasting Chinese food during Chinese New Year.

Parents have good access to written information in a welcome pack which includes contact numbers of staff, a brief description of the after school routine, business information and some key policies. In addition, a notice board provides parents with current information about that week's activities and the menu. Staff are particular in greeting all parents, engendering a friendly atmosphere. Parents report that their children enjoy the club and complain if they are collected early.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The manager and staff work well together to meet children's needs. Management have ensured that staff are suitable to work with children and are suitably qualified. There is a strong commitment to continued personal development evidenced in the number of courses made

available to staff. All staff, for example, have completed first aid training, health and safety training, basic food hygiene training and a child protection course.

The setting ensures children are supervised closely by complying with staffing ratios and deploying staff appropriately.

All required documents, policies and procedures that contribute to children's health, well-being and safety are in place and available for inspection. Management have not reviewed these policies rigorously enough to ensure they are up to date and not ambiguous.

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 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 satisfactory. 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):

- plan to support imaginative and creative play whilst outside
- provide furniture that allows children to rest comfortably
- review the lost child procedure and consent for emergency treatment to ensure that neither is ambiguous nor contains out of date information.

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