



Barton Badgers

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	218294
Inspection date	07 June 2005
Inspector	Christine Holmes
Setting Address	Barton Village Hall, Off Main Street, Barton Under Needlewood, Burton on Trent
Telephone number	01283 716059
E-mail	07732 838250 staff mobile- 01543 473195 humpty dum
Registered person	Mr and Mrs Phillip Siddell
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?

Barton Badgers Out of School Club opened in 1997. The group is situated in Barton-under-Needwood, a village outside Burton-on-Trent. The group use the village hall and have the use of two large halls and the sports hall, although for most activities they use the downstairs hall. Toilet facilities are situated on the ground floor. A kitchen is also available. A paved patio area at the rear of the downstairs hall provides the opportunity for outside activities. The group serves children from the local and surrounding areas.

There is currently 1 child from 4 years to 8 years on roll. Children attend a variety of

sessions. The setting has arrangements in place to support special needs.

The group opens five days a week term time only. Sessions are from 15:15 until 18:00.

There are five staff who work with the children, including the team leader. Two staff have early years qualifications to level 3.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health within the setting is supported well by staff who have a secure knowledge of the clubs health and hygiene procedures. The children are beginning to understand the benefits of healthy and nutritious options. They know that eating fruit at snack time and taking regular drinks throughout the session is a way to maintain their health. Children learn about the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines. They are independent in self-care skills such as washing their hands before eating which promotes their good health. However children are not included in hygiene routines such as food preparation or clearing away after snacks, which would help to develop their personal independence and responsibility for their environment. Children's individual dietary needs are met effectively, as these are discussed in detail with parents.

Children are developing a positive attitude to physical exercise and enjoy indoor and outdoor physical play as part of their regular daily routine which contributes to their good health and development. However, children do not benefit from having access to comfortable seating which would enable them to rest and relax according to their needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in clean, well maintained and spacious premises where potential risks are identified and mostly minimised. This means that children are able to move around and play safely. Children regularly practise emergency evacuation procedures and staff discuss safety issues on a daily basis with children. This results in children developing a good awareness of how to safe guard their own safety. Children's safety is maintained when travelling from school to the club as clear written procedures for the safe conduct of outings are in place and implemented by staff.

Child protection procedures are in place and the supervisor is attending further training to develop her knowledge and understanding of issues. Staff are aware of the procedures to follow if they had any concerns and know the relevant agencies to contact, although the written procedures are not yet fully in line with Local Area Child Protection Committed procedures. As a result, children welfare is safeguarded.

There is a sufficient and safe range of resources and equipment; however children do not have easy access to them, which limits children's free choice.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are supported to play well together and they enjoy good relationships with the staff who spend their time playing and talking with the children. Children are engaged in lively conversation which helps to promote their language and communication skills.

Children show interest and are kept occupied in a suitable range of appropriate indoor and outdoor activities. They particularly enjoy the large space in the hall where they take part in activities such as football and skipping.

Children make some choices about how they spend their time, for example, they can choose to play indoors or outdoors, but they are not generally involved enough in making decisions about their activities and they are not able to freely access resources. As a result some children are not fully satisfied or challenged with the range of activities on offer and do not always have the opportunity to relax and rest.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy good relationships with staff and play together harmoniously. They know what is expected of them because staff are good role models and provide them with clear and consistent behaviour boundaries and rules. As a consequence children's understanding of right and wrong is well developed.

Children are confident. They are able to confidently choose from the range of activities on offer, help themselves to a drink and express their feelings and thoughts about their time at the club. Their independence and self-esteem is increased through taking an active part in keeping themselves safe. However, staff have not recognised the importance of fully enabling children to contribute in the decisions about the club, such as planning activities and selecting resources. Consequently, children are not fully able to voice their opinions, make choices and decisions.

Activities and resources are beginning to be used to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of other. For example a selection of books introduces the children to the diversity of the world's communities.

Relationships with parents are friendly. Parents are provided with written information about the group and have the opportunity to talk with staff at the end of sessions. This ensures staff work in partnership with parents to meet children's needs.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The registered person uses effective procedures which ensure that staff are appropriately vetted. Staff are experienced and are supervised by a team leader in addition to the supervisor.

Good team work and an effective induction programme enables all staff to work together well to promote children health and enjoyment. However, written child protection procedures are not yet fully in accordance with Local Area Child Protection Committee procedures and some safety checks are not yet rigorous enough to minimise all hazards. For example, staff do not always check that all locks are in place on the hall door. This reduces children's security in this area

All required records are kept to ensure the efficient safe management of the provision, but staff have overlooked the requirement to ensure all records are available for inspection. Records such as parent's written consent for emergency medical care, the groups risk assessment and completed records of attendance are not kept on the premises. However, because these records are easily accessed from the groups main office the potential impact of this oversight has minimal impact on children's welfare.

This means that the needs of all children are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous care inspection the registered person agreed to improve security of the premises and minimise risks to children's safety when using the toilet.

Since the last inspection the risks to children safety when using the public toilets has been minimised. Children are now accompanied when they visit the toilets and staff check the toilet before children use them.

Access to the club is managed more effectively and therefore children are safe. Staff accompany children when moving between rooms and doors which lead to public areas have been fitted with locks to secure the rooms. However, staff are still not vigilant enough to ensure that at all times all locks are used. Consequently, at times children's security is reduced.

As agreed at the last inspection the group has devised a new child protection policy and procedure. However, it still does not fully comply with the Local Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

The requirement for the manager to hold an appropriate level 3 qualification has now been met.

The previous care inspection recommended that the group continue to develop the range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice. As a result children are beginning to enjoy learning about

the wider world.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- improve security checks to doors leading to the public areas
- ensure the written child protection policy and procedures are fully in accordance with the Local Area Child Protection Committee procedures
- ensure all documentation is available for inspection at all times
- make sure toys and equipment are organised so that they are readily accessible to children to allow them to make independent choices and initiate and develop their own play and activities
- make sure children are more involved and able to make positive contributions in decisions about their play and care

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk