

Pied Piper Activities

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY332923
Inspection date	07 August 2007
Inspector	Chris Mackinnon
Setting Address	Lancing College Prep School at Mowden, The Droveaway, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 6LU
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Registered person	Pied Piper Activities 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Pied Piper activities opened in 2006. It operates within Lancing College Prep School now located at Mowden House in Hove, near Brighton. The setting uses the school's gym, classrooms, computer room and art-craft area. Children also have access to safe and secure outdoor play areas within the school grounds. The setting is open Monday to Friday 8:30 to 17:15 during Easter and Summer holidays.

The setting is registered to care for a maximum of 60 children aged from four years to under eight years with 56 children currently on roll. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language. There is a core staff team of seven, all with relevant teaching experience or play-work training.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is well supported at the setting, with staff following well organised hygiene procedures. Frequent adult guidance supports children's independent personal care. Staff

support younger children well in their developing awareness of how to be tidy and clean. Staff have first aid training and clear first aid procedures are in place. The setting keeps clear and up-to-date records of accidents but they are not fully confidential and limited space is provided to record details. Staff are enthusiastic and support children effectively as they develop physical skills and gain confidence during the many activities they enjoy. Staff take care to ensure children have healthy food provided at lunch and snack-time. Children also have access to drinking water throughout the day. The wide range of games and activities provided and high level of staff involvement, contributes effectively to children's physical development and continued good health.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children have access to a well organised play and care environment, with plenty of space and a broad range of resources. Children are closely supervised by staff and a well organised range of safety procedures and written guidance ensures children are kept free from harm. Staff are deployed effectively to ensure children's safety and clear staffing arrangements are in place during all activities, indoor and outdoor. Children enjoy using a wide range of sports and physical games equipment, well presented to interest different ages and levels of ability. A well organised stock of assembly materials, art-crafts and computer resources also enables children to have creative fun and enjoy quieter activities. Children are supported in using resources safely and enjoy learning new skills and having fun. Those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are also safely included, with staff able to make adaptations to resources and activities. Children are well protected by confident staff, with a clear understanding of the need to safeguard children and promote children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the setting, following a well organised programme of activities. Staff use their experience and enthusiasm to encourage children effectively in many challenging and fun activities, including sports, water-play, computer games and creative art-crafts. Children are encouraged to play together happily and develop their skills. Younger children are also effectively supported during well supervised age-appropriate games and activities. All children respond enthusiastically to challenges to extend their physical development. Plenty of opportunities are provided for children to improve and accomplish sport skills through a wide variety of organised games and activities. Staff take care to learn about individual children's interests, helping them take a full part in the activities provided. Staff provide an effective balance between adult and child-led activities, allowing children to contribute and lead their own play. Staff use questions successfully to challenge children's thinking and extend their experiences. The staff team are successfully led and managed and work effectively to provide children with plenty of fun and enjoyment.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are welcomed and encouraged to take a full part in the setting's activities. Staff are enthusiastic and well organised and give close consideration to children's individual interests. Staff are consistent in helping children to share and play happily together. Staff are also effective in developing children's awareness of the need for good behaviour. The setting has access to

resources that reflect diversity and activities are organised to develop children's interest in the wider world. Children also have opportunities to explore nature and their surroundings. The setting has established good links with parents and staff are able to provide parents with information on their children's enjoyment of the setting. Parents are also provided with clear details of the programme of activities.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's enjoyment and development is well supported by the successful organisation of the setting. The indoor and outdoor play areas are spacious and provide an extensive range of sports and adventure opportunities for children. An interesting and varied supply of games and art-craft resources support children in having fun and learning new skills. All required documentation is in place and up-to-date. Written guidance is available for staff to ensure the safe, efficient and effective organisation of the setting. Staff also provide parents with clear information on the setting's aims and activities. Children are guided by enthusiastic staff, who are closely supported by the person in charge. Staff are trained and experienced and work together well as a team. Staff deployment is well organised to effectively support children's care and development. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

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 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):

- revise the accident record to be more confidential and provide more space to report details of children's accidents

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