

Annabelle's After School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY254318
Inspection date	23 July 2007
Inspector	Janet Maria Moutter
Setting Address	Lechlade Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 8AH
Telephone number	01367 240655
E-mail	annabelle@e-satff.co.uk
Registered person	Annabelle Lucy Wills
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?

Annabelle's Breakfast and After school group opened in 2002. It operates from Faringdon Infants School in the main hall or terrapin building if the main hall is not available. The group serves Faringdon infant and junior schools.

There are currently 38 children from four to eight years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from

08:00 - 08:45 and 15:00 - 18:30.

Five part time staff to work with the children, three of these have early years qualifications with one further staff member working towards an early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children increase their understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle as they freely access drinks and make independent choices from a good range of healthy based snacks. The staff work closely with parents to ensure children are offered appropriate food and drink to meet any allergy requirements or parental preferences.

Children have opportunities to develop their social skills as they choose where to sit at the tables set out for snack time. The children also gently remind each other to sit at the table when eating.

Children benefit from the clean and hygienic environment. They understand the hygiene routines, for example washing their hands before snack and staff are vigilant about maintaining these. Some children have personalised their beaker's which allowed them to find their own beaker when helping themselves to water. Most of the staff hold current first aid certificates, which enables them to attend to minor accidents appropriately. There are clear policies in place for sickness, which parents are made aware of and these procedures protect children's good health.

Children enjoy good opportunities to be physically active. Children are able to move around the provision freely and safely and independently. They have a large hall with areas to play together indoors with a wide range of equipment. Annabelle's 'Out of School' care have access to a large enclosed outside play area. These school facilities are available to the children and they have daily opportunities for physical exercise. In addition they take part in exciting, imaginative activities, such as walking through the fortress walk ways into the woods, where supervised the children climb in the tress and play and explore.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children play within premises that are clean, well maintained, warm and welcoming to children and parents. They benefit from the staff's good understanding of safety issues and their awareness of the importance of taking positive steps to prevent accidents. For example, the premises are kept secure and comprehensive risk assessments are undertaken on a daily basis prior to children entering the provision. Children are starting to share responsibility for their own safety through activities, such as tidying away resources after play to reduce the risk of trip hazards. Children are able to move around the provision freely, safely and independently. Although there is very limited wall space for their group notices and the fire drill can not be displayed, the school's fire drills are clearly visibly displayed. The children were able to explain what they would do in the event of a fire. The staff do monitor the children's involvement in emergency evacuation drills.

Children enjoy self-selecting from a wide range of clean, well maintained, age appropriate resources. They benefit from staff having a good understanding of safety issues regarding the purchase and maintenance of equipment. As a result, children are able to play with toys that are safe, suitable and age appropriate.

Children's welfare is supported by staff that are aware of child protection issues and the correct procedures to be followed if there is a concern about a child. There is a system for advising parents of the provider's responsibilities with safeguarding children, prior to a child commencing in the setting.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident, well motivated and eager to explore the available activities on arrival. For example, some children decide to have a game on the computer games whilst others choose to try three-dimensional construction. Children have warm, positive relationships with the welcoming staff and have formed good friendships with their peers. Children display real consideration for others. For example, an older child spontaneously shared a story with a younger child, whilst another helped a younger school friend play a board game. Children demonstrate very good social skills and are able to successfully share resources and take turns.

Children benefit from staff knowing them extremely well and having a clear understanding of their home circumstances and individual needs. Children's enjoyment of the play opportunities is enhanced by staff who are always well deployed, such as when outside climbing trees or the climbing frame or inside talking about their day at school and events at home. Children are constantly well occupied. They take part in a wide range of stimulating activities that are fun and help to promote their development. The children went to great lengths to praise their club and point out their favourite activities such as cooking cakes or preparing fruit salad. They concentrated hard as they acted out complicated dance routines from one of their favourite CDs which is disco dance.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The provision is fully inclusive. All children are acknowledged and valued as individuals, which has a positive impact on their confidence and self-esteem. Children take part in practical activities such as cooking or preparing food snacks. Children talk about the local community such as where they go to 'Brownies' this helps them increase their awareness of the wider world. In addition, they access an adequate variety of resources, such as books, that reflect positive images of diversity.

Children behave extremely well. Their behaviour is well supported by staff that have high expectations of behaviour, act as good role models and use effective strategies to encourage positive behaviour. Children develop their awareness of right and wrong whilst in the provision and they are also involved in making and maintaining the rules of the group.

Children benefit from the positive partnership that exists between parents and staff. Parents are provided with some quality information about the provision and have informal opportunities at the beginning or end of sessions to discuss any care issues or their child's development, learning and needs. However, there are no systems of recording routines and activities, such as scrapbooks or activity plans, so that parents can share their child's achievements and the achievements of the group. Detailed personal information about the children is carefully collated and easily accessible for reference, such as in an emergency. In addition, there is the provision for liaison with children's class teachers, where necessary, to help support any additional needs.

Children are looked after within an environment where there is a very good continuity of approach to their care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The provision greatly benefits from the qualifications, skills and experience and youthful energy of the coordinator. The staff all work very well as a team and are keen to extend their knowledge and experience of this age range. There are appropriate procedures in place to protect children from adults that have not been vetted.

Children benefit from the familiar school surroundings and relaxed Out of School environment, this gives the children a sense of belonging to the club. Planning does not involve the children. However, the staff are deployed well and level's are maintained, this encourages the children to socialise with older children and children from other schools. The provision is run by a private Day Nursery Holiday Scheme and both the school head and parents support the way the wrap-around care is organised and run. The staff provide good role models for the children and offer caring supervised play opportunities for children in a safe environment.

Most required documentation that contributes to children's safety and welfare is in place, easily accessible and where appropriate documents are securely kept to ensure confidentiality. However, Ofsted is made aware on any significant changes to the provision but it is the provisions responsibility to ensure that Ofsted have correct details and are informed at the earliest opportunity, as they are managed by another provision registered with Ofsted.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection nine recommendations were made to improve the provision. The provider was asked to conduct risk assessments on the premises; obtain local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures; put in place safety procedures for collecting children, checking staff's suitability, ensuring written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice and treatment is in place, to carry out fire drills and to complete all sections of the register including time of arrival and departure of children. Also to make available to parents their operational policies and procedures including complaints, medication, behaviour and child protection policies.

Since then good progress has been made with all the recommendations completed. Children's welfare and safety is supported as they now have clear registers, regular fire drills, up to date policies and procedures to follow and shared with parents. They do this in a safe environment where regular risk assessments are conducted and safety procedures are in place for when children are both initially registered and collected at the end of a session. The staff suitability clearances, qualifications and training are checked prior to working with the children.

This supports children's safety and well being.

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 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):

- implement systems of recording routines and activities so that parents can share their children's development, learning and needs
- ensure that Ofsted are informed of any changes to any person who is a member of the committee or corporate or unincorporated body who's prime purpose is to provide day care.

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