

Smiley Faces

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	101903
Inspection date	04 October 2007
Inspector	Hilary Elizabeth Tierney
Setting Address	Holy Trinity C of E Primary School, Jersey Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL52 2JP
Telephone number	07745 095117
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Registered person	Julie Dyke
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Sessional 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?

Smiley Faces operates from a portacabin within the grounds of Holy Trinity Primary School in Cheltenham. It serves families from the local area as well as those with connections to the school.

Smiley Faces registered in 2000 and may provide care for 20 children aged from three to eight years. The group opens five days a week during term time. Sessions are from 08.00 to 08.45 and from 15.00 to 18.00. The group offer a play scheme, that opens from 08.00 until 18.00, during the summer holidays. Currently there is a total of 49 children, of whom, 17 are under eight years of age on roll.

Three full-time and three part-time staff work directly with the children. Staff's qualifications include a Nursery Nursing Examination Board certificate and National Vocational Qualifications at Level 2 and 3. The group receives support from a development worker through the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn satisfactory personal hygiene procedures. Children understand they need to wash their hands before snacks and after using the toilet. Hand dryers or paper towels are used which help to prevent the spread of infection. Clear policies are in place to ensure children who are sick are dealt with effectively and parents are contacted immediately. Clear accident records are in place and shared with parents on the day. Information from school is also passed to parents when they collect their child. Staff are aware of obtaining prior written permission from parents to administer any medication. Although no children have needed any medication to date, staff have not put in place a system for recording medication that may need to be administered to children. Parental permissions have been obtained to allow staff to seek emergency medical advice or treatment and staff are confident in dealing with minor accidents.

Children learn about healthy eating. Snacks provided are varied and fruit is offered regularly. Children choose the type of snacks they would like, when they have a committee meeting. Children have easy access to fresh drinking water and juice is also offered. Staff have a good awareness and understanding about children's dietary needs and ensure they obtain clear details from parents before the care commences.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are welcomed into an extremely welcoming and friendly environment. Children's displays of work adorn the walls, giving the children a sense of belonging. The room is well maintained and clean. Resources are of particularly high quality and are easily accessible for all children.

Children are safe because staff have a good level of risk awareness. Staff supervise children well at all times, whilst allowing them some freedom to wander and play when outside in the school playground. Children are reminded of the rules of the club after snack time, they fully understand them and that they are there to keep them safe. Fire evacuation plans are in place and practised regularly with children. There is a clear outings procedure in place and all written parental permissions are requested before children are taken out.

Children are protected adequately. Staff are clear about the signs and indicators of abuse. However, they were unsure about the changes to the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Staff have clear procedures to follow in the event of having concerns about children and understand what to do if an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle quickly as they arrive into the group. Younger children are collected by a member of staff. They understand the rules and sit well at snack time. Children chat happily with both staff and each other, talking about what they have done and going to do during the session.

Children have their own committee and are given good opportunities to suggest ideas for activities during the coming weeks. Some children choose to play outside whilst others stay

inside. The children that stay inside select their own activities that include a play station, role play, and books. A painting activity is set up with some children. They were observed being shown how to blow the paint around the paper and make patterns. The children take part in this activity with excitement and appear to thoroughly enjoy it. The activity develops as children start hand painting, making patterns in the paper and pressing another piece of paper on top to see what develops. Then children start to bubble paint and get excited as their pictures develop. They talk and laugh with each other and the staff.

Children are very happy, confident and feel safe at the club. They interact well with staff and each other as they play. There is a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities on offer. Children are able to make choices and clearly enjoy their activities.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated with equal care and concern. Staff and children show respect for each other and interactions between them are good. Children are encouraged to take ownership of their club and have developed a committee. They have monthly meetings during which they decide the activities they would like to do, food they want for snacks and produce newsletters for their parents. Planning sheets are completed by all children. The older children complete these with words and the younger children use pictures of activities they would like to do. Staff offer good support for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. They share information with parents and school teachers, to ensure they are well prepared and informed about the child's needs, before care commences.

Children are well behaved, polite, confident and show care and concern for each other. The older children look after the younger children well. All children understand the rules of the club. Staff have a calm, caring approach and involve the children in setting their own boundaries, which encourages good behaviour. Staff are observant as children play and quickly intervene if a minor squabble starts. Children are taken to one side, as staff discuss with them what has happened and try to sort out any issues. Children understand right from wrong.

A good relationship with parents has developed. Information is shared on a regular basis with them, both verbally and through newsletters from both staff and children. All policies and procedures are shared with parents and the parents poster is clearly displayed. The complaints procedure is clear and shared with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

All legally required documents are in place. The registration certificate is displayed clearly which enables parents to see the conditions of registration. The register is completed clearly and accurately with times of children's attendance times. The staff are committed to improvement and have completed self evaluation sheets which has helped them identify their strengths and weaknesses. Policies and procedures are regularly updated and reviewed. Any changes are shared with parents.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

The provider had one recommendation from the last inspection. This was to ensure that staff have a clear knowledge and understanding of appropriate action to take when a child with special needs is identified or admitted to the provision.

This has been completed satisfactorily. Staff have improved their knowledge relating to children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Clear guidelines are in place and staff work closely with the school to ensure care is correct.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 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):

- ensure written records of any medication administered to children are kept
- update staffs knowledge and understanding about procedures relating to safeguarding children.

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