

Barnardo's South Ribble Family Project

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	309228
Inspection date	31 January 2008
Inspector	Lynne Naylor
Setting Address	453 Leyland Road, Lostock Hall, Preston, Lancashire, PR5 5SB
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Registered person	Barnardo's
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?

Barnardo's Include Me 2 operates from a centre run by Barnardo's. A suite of rooms is used by children attending the out of school club. Children have direct access to two outdoor play areas.

The group supports children with severe learning difficulties, physical disabilities and those with complex medical needs. A maximum of 25 children may attend at any one time. The service is open each weekday during term time from 15.15 until 17.00. During school holiday time a play scheme operates from 10.00 until 15.00.

There are currently 130 children on roll. Of these, 26 are aged under eight years. Eight staff work with the children. Seven of the staff have appropriate qualifications in early years. Staff are supported by additional managerial, administration, auxiliary and volunteer staff. The facility has Investors in People status.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children play in a clean environment. Staff protect children's health by taking appropriate steps to minimise the spread of infection. In the event of an injury, an identified person with up-to-date first aid training carries out appropriate treatment. Useful systems are in place to record any accidents and medicine administrations, using individual sheets for each child to ensure that all information is kept confidential. The records are signed by parents to acknowledge that they have been informed.

Before snack time children routinely wash their hands. The policies and procedures relating to health are effective in ensuring continuity of care between staff and parents, through good communication and appropriate action. Parents' views regarding the seeking of emergency medical advice and treatment are clearly obtained.

Snack after school is eaten at the table. Children say 'please' and 'thank you' using words or signs. Healthy snacks, such as toast, slices of apple and segments of orange, are served with blackcurrant cordial to drink. Children and adults sit together and chat about their day, which makes snack time a pleasant social occasion. Children's dietary needs are effectively met because staff use their good knowledge of children's specific requirements and their likes and dislikes to provide snacks.

Children's health benefits from breathing fresh air whilst exercising in the outdoor area. High level staffing arrangements enable children to choose when and for how long they wish to play outdoors. Children's fine motor skills develop well as they manipulate small toys.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming suite of rooms that is clean and well maintained. They move freely and safely between the rooms, which have identified purposes. In the playroom, the resources are well spaced out, providing good access for wheelchair users. Children independently select toys from a good range of clean, safe equipment, attractively set out by staff prior to each session. Toys and equipment, which are regularly checked for safety, meet the needs of the full range of children who attend. Children enjoy the sensory room with its soft furnishings, light fibres and underwater themed film projected on to the wall. There is an additional room with a television that is used for settling children or for one-to-one activities with children.

Children play outdoors safely in one of the two outdoor areas, directly accessed from the playroom, which are securely fenced. The area surfaced in impact absorbing material is used all year. The grassed area is mainly used in the drier weather. Children are kept safe through staff's vigilance and good practice. With the exception of the cassette player, which could be pulled down on someone as it is on a high shelf with the lead plugged in at ground level, hazards are minimised as identified in the risk assessment. Children practise safe evacuation procedures regularly. Safe collection procedures ensure children leave with a known adult.

Clear induction systems ensure new staff are well aware of the procedures required to protect children and keep them safe. In addition to being supervised by staff at all times, volunteers

are fully briefed before the session and debriefed after the session, which ensures they are fully informed about the children attending.

During the holiday play scheme, children visit places of interest, such as animal farms, zoos and local parks. Comprehensive procedures are followed when transporting children on outings. Risk assessments are conducted and documented prior to all outings. Minibus planners are drawn up to ensure all seats are fitted safely and securely. If parents provide their own child's seat for the minibus, they are involved in checking the safety of the installation. Staff are trained in moving and handling techniques and mobile hoists are taken on outings.

The children's welfare is safeguarded because staff demonstrate a clear understanding of potential signs of abuse and neglect, and of whom to contact in the event of identifying a child protection concern. The setting's written statement is well understood by staff. Procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation against staff are included in the child protection policy.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

On arrival from school, children settle quickly because the room has been attractively set up and staff are waiting to greet them. Due to a clear briefing before children arrive, all volunteers know which child they will be working with and their personal interests, therefore children are quickly involved in play. Children move around the room playing with toys that have been selected as suitable for their age, ability or personal preferences. They make sounds with the good selection of musical instruments. They also play with the small world equipment, such as cars on a mat. Children express themselves creatively using wax crayons or they colour in printed pictures of television characters. Children do not have access to stored equipment; however, staff can quickly access additional equipment if required. At some sessions, activities such as sand and water play are set up. Staff occasionally plan in advance interesting craft activities relating to a theme. Photographs show children during the play scheme involved in creative activities, such as decorating apples and making chocolate lollipops at Halloween.

Positive relationships are formed between staff and the children, who are happy and settled. Staff are very attentive to individual children. They take a genuine interest in what they are doing in their play and encourage communication and the development of other skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are highly valued as individuals and treated with equal concern. Staff are excellent role models, emphasising the importance of being kind, friendly and respectful towards one another. Children are encouraged to follow rules, which are consistent, such as sit at the table until you have finished eating snack. Children are encouraged to use good manners at snack time. They help to tidy away equipment. Children's individual ways are known and acknowledged by staff; this helps to raise their self-esteem and confidence. The main aim of the group is to work with children in this safe setting until they are able to join mainstream out of school clubs with or without the support of Barnardo's staff or volunteers.

Children's behaviour is well managed through clearly defined plans which are set up in consultation with parents. All adults working at the setting receive appropriate training, which ensures they use appropriate strategies when dealing with challenging behaviour.

Children's individual needs are effectively met. This is because partnership with parents is particularly strong. Meetings held at the children's homes provide valuable information about the child's health and needs and the parents' views on what they want from the service. Regular review meetings are held to ensure the child's and parents' needs are still being met. Parents are provided with some written information that includes the setting's policy statements and procedures. In addition, they are able to read some useful information in the quarterly newsletters.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are well cared for in the setting due to high levels of adult attention. They benefit from being cared for by an established staff team and regular volunteer staff who work very well together and are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities. There are rigorous procedures in place for the vetting of new staff, which means that children's safety and well-being is well maintained. Children are very familiar with the established routines. For example, prior to snack time being announced, a child enters the bathroom of his own accord, washes his hands and sits down at the table, patiently waiting.

Children are kept safe and healthy as staff show a strong commitment to keeping up to date with training. Good support from management enables staff to access training that in turn helps to enhance the quality of care that children receive. Children benefit from the good systems of communication in place.

Children are cared for in a stimulating environment due to good use of time, space and resources. They access a sound range of activities which suits their developmental needs. The required documentation is up-to-date and stored confidentially; this contributes to the safe and efficient management of the provision. The setting's policies and procedures are explicit and serve to protect children. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to improve induction training for staff and volunteers, and ensure a parental signature is obtained to acknowledge the record of any medicine administered.

Since the last inspection the company has strengthened its vetting procedures for volunteers. Even though they are always supervised, all volunteers undergo vetting and are required to attend all the training sessions before working at the setting. These sessions cover health and safety and child protection policies and procedures.

The record of medicine administrations shows parental signatures giving consent for medicine to be administered. Staff now make sure that the record also shows another parental signature acknowledging they have been informed of the administration.

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 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):

- ensure any electrical item plugged in to the low level socket does not pose a hazard.

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