

Prospect Nursery and Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 503382

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Registered person Prospect Training Services Ltd

Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Full day 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?

Prospect Nursery was registered in 1980. It is a privately owned, full day care provision. It operates on the ground floor of premises situated in the centre of Hornsea, East Yorkshire. A maximum of 20 children may attend at any one time during school hours, and 23 when the out of school club is operating. The nursery is open each weekday from 07.45 to 18.00; they are closed for a week at Christmas and on bank holidays. The children have access to four play rooms plus ancillary areas all on the ground floor, they also have access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 49 children, from babies to children aged under eight years, on roll, all of whom come from Hornsea and surrounding villages. Children attend for a variety of sessions; some attend before and after school and the children walk with staff to and from the local school. There are no children attending who have learning difficulties, or who have English as a second language.

The nursery employs six staff; of these, five including the manager hold an appropriate early years qualification. One staff member is currently working towards an NVQ level 2 qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the nursery. Their health is supported effectively because the staff follow the clear policies and procedures in place which meet the children's physical, nutritional and health needs. The staff provide a high level of support to children with understanding and sensitivity. This enables the children to develop self-care and independence, and to become increasingly independent in their feeding skills.

Children explore, test and develop physical control in daily, well organised, indoor and outdoor experiences. The staff are fully aware of individual children's development needs through observations and assessments. They have a good understanding of how children develop physically. They encourage and support children to try out new skills; children are confident and, with help, are able to access many activities to support their physical development in all areas. The children develop a positive attitude to physical exercise. They have daily opportunities to climb, balance and run, enjoying using the outdoor area and getting fresh air when playing and looking for spiders and insects. They access a wide range of small tools to support their fine motor skills.

Children bring their own individual food from home. This is stored and served effectively to ensure children have access to their own meals. Lunch and snack time are social occasions with very good attention paid to managing children's feeding and care needs. The older children freely access drinking water from the cooler. Effective liaison with parents ensures children's individual dietary and health needs are fully met.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Risks of accidental injury to children are minimised because staff are vigilant and use comprehensive risk assessment systems to reduce potential hazards. The staff demonstrate effective skills and a good understanding of how to organise the children into considering how they use the different equipment. For example, when playing outside the older children are supported by staff to use the bikes. They remind the children of safe ways of doing things, for example when walking to and from school.

Children access a wide range of safe and suitable toys, resources and equipment, all very appropriate to their age and stage of development. However, there is no domestic style furniture in the baby room to assist children with mobility and to continue normal life experiences. The equipment is set out to enable children to make choices and self-select. The staff are effective in supporting children to make choices. The children also access some natural and sensory resources to stimulate their senses, however, in the baby room access to natural tactile resources is limited.

The organisation of the nursery, activities and resources allows the children to play in a safe environment. The very good communication with parents also contributes to children's safety.

Children are very well protected by the staff, who have a clear understanding of the safeguarding policies and procedures. All the required information and documentation are readily available.

There are opportunities for staff to attend ongoing training to keep updated. They are fully aware of their responsibilities and give a high priority to children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the nursery. They progress in their development effectively, because staff are confident and skilled in using their knowledge and understanding to promote children's development. The staff are motivated and interested in the children as individuals. The excellent staff ratios enable children to have very effective adult support throughout the day.

The children arrive happy and eager to participate, they part easily from their parents to key staff workers who know the children well and are sensitive to their individual needs. The close and caring relationships are increasing children's trust and helping them to develop confidence and build self-esteem. Early communication skills are well supported through good adult-child interactions. Children are beginning to make sense of the world and express their ideas through lots of effective planned activities and free play that supports their learning. The children are good communicators and express themselves very well with staff and visiting adults.

Continuity of care is supported by consistent, trained key staff. This ensures children's individual routines are followed, which enables them to develop good relationships with the staff and encourages their independence. There is a positive bond, and appropriate physical contact between the children and staff, which increases children's wellbeing and sense of self. There are opportunities for the children to express their ideas and be involved with a wide variety of activities and experiences. The children enjoy the many play activities; they explore paints, textures, music, stories and songs. Overall, this provides the children with an environment which promotes individual development and good care.

The group progresses the development of the children in a systematic way, using assessments to support the planning. Information is shared with parents, staff and other involved professionals if required. Small achievements as the children progress through the group are celebrated. The assessment of children gives staff insight into individual children's developmental needs and assists them in planning for the children when they attend the nursery. This is in the process of being developed to link with future childcare requirements.

The care needs of the younger children are tailored to the routine of the individual child. This ensures that all care needs are met. Working closely with parents at the start of the placement ensures that communication with the key worker is effective.

The assessments of children are done by staff to link to the outcomes of the 'Birth to three matters' framework for the younger children, and to the Foundation Stage stepping stones for the older children. All the staff have a very good understanding of these frameworks and adapt activities to promote children's development and learning in all areas.

Assessments in all areas of development are used effectively to plan for the children's next steps in their development. The portfolios of children's progress are used to inform the planning for individual children. This gives all children sufficient challenge to build on and extend their skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children are made very welcome to the nursery. The staff value children's individuality and respect parents' views and contributions to the care provided. Younger children's home routines are discussed and staff work to meet these appropriately. The children's behaviour is very good, and staff show a consistent and caring approach to managing behaviour. The children follow simple rules and know the routines and boundaries in place. Children learn good manners; they say please and thank you.

Children have many opportunities to learn about the world around them through topics and resources that promote diversity in all areas. Their own cultures and those of others are explored.

The very good partnership with parents contributes significantly to children's wellbeing. Parents' views are sought, through discussion and documentation, on a regular basis throughout the time their children attend. Effective systems are in place to ensure all parents are kept informed of how their child is progressing in the nursery. Children benefit from the involvement of parents in projects and topics, which contributes to their good health, development and learning.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The good organisation of the group provides a welcoming environment for children to play and learn. There is a wide range of comprehensive policies and procedures in place that supports the management of the nursery. The premises in all areas are planned to support and promote children's development and learning. The manager and staff ensure all families are supported and individual children's care needs are followed. The staff ratios ensure children have excellent support, allowing children to experience the many interesting and different activities that are provided throughout the day. The use of time, space and resources enhances children's wellbeing in all areas.

Children's care and learning are supported with good leadership and management. Children benefit from the staff having a sound knowledge of how children develop and learn through play. Detailed procedures are in place for the induction and ongoing training of staff. The staff have a commitment to improvement and personal development, this underpins the care and welfare of the children in the setting.

The monitoring of the service is done by the manager. This is done systematically and informs the future development plans for the provision. The staff show enthusiasm and work effectively as a team to ensure the provision meets the needs of all the children who attend.

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 recommendations were made relating to documentation. There is now comprehensive information available to parents before their child starts at nursery, and this covers the illness policy of the nursery.

The documentation supporting the safeguarding of children has been developed and now contains all the required procedures and contact numbers.

This has improved the information for parents and ensures a safe environment for children.

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):

- provide domestic style furniture in the baby room, to assist in developing mobility and continue normal life experiences
- continue to improve the balance of natural resources for the younger 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