

Sweetpeas at Parsonage

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY225238
Inspection date	06 February 2008
Inspector	Hazel Stuart-Buddery / Catherine Hill
Setting Address	Cherry Tree Close, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 9TT
Telephone number	01252 548003
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Registered person	Sweet Peas Breakfast & After School Club
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Sweet Peas Breakfast & After School Club opened in 2001. It operates from Parsonage Farm Infant School in Farnborough and has extensive use of the school premises. The club primarily serves children from the infant school, but also offers places to local junior schools.

The group may care for a maximum of 26 children aged between three and eight years and currently have 60 children on the registers. The group offers breakfast, lunch and after school sessions and a holiday play scheme during most school holidays. Children attend for a variety of sessions and are accepted up to the age of 11 years.

The club opens five days a week during term-time. Sessions run from 07.50 until 08.30, 11.50 until 13.30 and 15.15 until 17.30. The holiday play scheme runs from 08.00 until 17.30.

The breakfast and after school club is operated by four members of staff and the lunch club by two staff. Staffing qualifications meet the required standard. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare partnership (EYDCP).

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children begin to learn the importance of daily hygiene routines as they are encouraged to wash their hands after visiting the toilet. They understand why this is important and confidently communicate that germs need to be washed away. However, the spread of infection is not fully promoted as children are not encouraged to wash hands before they eat. Children have healthy options for breakfast, lunch and after school and always have independent access to fresh drinking water. This ensures children learn about healthy eating and lifestyles from a young age. Staff gather all relevant information regarding diet and medical history and all staff are aware of children's individual needs.

Children receive appropriate care if there is an accident as there is always one member of staff who holds a current first aid certificate. Medication and accident records are maintained, although on occasions lack some detail. They regularly enjoy a range of activities that contribute to their health and develop their physical skills. Children enthusiastically get on their coats to play outside. They negotiate between them what ball games they will play. Some children stand in circles and confidently bounce the ball to each other. Other children prefer to run around kicking the ball and trying hard to throw into the basket ball net.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from playing in an organised environment. This allows them to move around freely and safely. They have easy and safe access to an adequate range of resources that are set out for them by the staff according to the planning. The group operate within school premises. Generally the premises are secure, although during the breakfast club, the main doors remain open and unwanted visitors are not prevented from entering. Staff are deployed well and are vigilant with children's safety at all times. Children are adequately protected from the risk of fire. A fire evacuation plan is displayed and the fire drill practised every half term. However, the fire drill is not implemented over different days or sessions to ensure all children attending the clubs have an opportunity to practise the drill.

The welfare of the children is promoted with regard to child protection. A written policy is in place and available for parents should they wish to see it. Some staff have received child protection training, although not all staff are secure with the referral procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, engaged and have lots of fun. They arrive enthusiastically and immediately settle at their chosen activity. Children happily socialise together and enjoy board games. Staff interact well with the children and enjoy a game of snakes and ladders with some of the children. They confidently count the number shown on the dice and move their counter accordingly. They happily take turns and shout with delight as they go up the ladders. When they realise that they are going down a snake they groan but accept what they have to do. Children use their imagination well as they play in small groups with the dinosaurs. Some children pretend to sleep while others try hard to wake them up by using the dinosaurs to tickle them. They

make groaning noises while they are crouched very small and suddenly wake up, waving their arms around. The children shriek with delight and run away before the dinosaur gets them.

Children are very confident and communicate with adults and peers. Staff provide books to enable children to sit down quietly to rest and relax if they are tired.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children feel good about themselves and show respect for others as they share resources and happily take turns during board games. Children understand the rules of the group and know what is expected of them. Some children confidently talk about the reward stickers they can receive for being helpful, kind and well behaved. They know what the consequences are if the rules are not followed. Children respond positively to the praise and encouragement given to them by the staff. They enjoy each others' company and are well behaved. Children learn about diversity through planned topics and have access to some resources such as books and dolls.

The partnership with parents is adequately promoted. Weekly plans are displayed for them to see what their children are doing and staff are available to talk to parents when they collect their children. However, information about children's backgrounds and cultures are not sought when the children first start, which means that the individual needs of children may not be fully met. A full set of policies and procedures are available, although these have not been fully shared with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

All areas that children use are well-organised and staff show an awareness of their role in supporting the children in their play. Staff receive in-house induction training, this ensures that they have a basic understanding of policies and procedures so that they can contribute to the safety and welfare of the children. Minimum staffing qualification requirements are met. All regulatory records and documentation are in place, although lack some detail on occasions. Information kept about the children is relevant, although some parts of the registrations forms are not fully completed.

The manager and person in charge have a sound awareness of the National Standards. There are robust recruitment and on-going suitability procedures in place. Overall, the group meet the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the group were asked to ensure staff undertake appropriate child protection training; provide a written induction procedure for staff, students and volunteers; review and consider storage arrangements for documentation. The manager has addressed most issues raised. The person in charge has attended child protection training, although not all staff are secure in the referral procedure should they be concerned and still remains a weakness in the provision; a written induction procedure is in place and carried out for all staff;

all documentation is stored in a locked cupboard. These improvements help to promote children's welfare and the safe management of the provision.

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):

- improve daily hygiene procedures by ensuring children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating
- ensure there is an effective system in place for managing access to the premises, particularly during the breakfast club
- develop staff's awareness of child protection referral procedures
- improve partnership with parents by ensuring policies and procedures are fully shared with parents and are freely available to them.

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