

Gosling Trust

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number Inspection date Inspector	EY243943 28 November 2007 Juliet Eileen Hartridge
Setting Address	c/o Goosewell Primary School, Furzehatt Villas, Plymouth, Devon, PL9 9HD
Telephone number	01752 482960 or 01752 484 360 (aft sch)
E-mail	goosewell-primaryschool.plymouth.gov.uk
Registered person	The Trustees of Gosling Trust
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?

The Gosling Trust was registered in 2002. The group offers before and after school care for children attending Goosewell Primary School, as well as a holiday club, which is also open to children from different schools in the area. Goosewell Primary School is situated in Plymstock, a residential suburb of Plymouth. The Trust is based within the school grounds, operating from purpose built rooms. The club also accesses the school library and hall if required. The school playing field and playground are available for outdoor play, as well as the swimming pool in the summer. The club is open from 08:00 to 09:00 hours and 15:15 to 18:00 hours each weekday during term time. Holiday club provision is open from 08:00 to 18:00 hours. The number of children on roll varies. There are 11 part time staff working with the children across the different types of provision, with a further staff available for cover. The manager and play leaders have or are working towards appropriate Level 2 and 3 qualifications.

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's good health is very well supported, and children are well cared for in a clean, hygienic and well maintained environment. Children's independence is encouraged, and they are aware of the importance of washing their hands before eating, and know why it is necessary to wash their hands before cooking, and the risk of cross infection is reduced individual paper towels are provided for hand drying. Children are appropriately well cared for in an emergency as there are always at least two staff on duty with first aid qualifications. Accident and medication administration consents and records are fully recorded. Parents and carers provide consent for emergency medical treatment, which is currently being up-dated. Children have regular opportunities to enjoy vigorous play after school as well as swimming in the holidays. Physical activities are planned and included football and team games in the playground or games such as Twister indoors if the weather is unsuitable. They also have good opportunities to relax in the comfortable seating area where they can quietly look at books if they choose.

Children greatly benefit as the food provided in the setting is nutritious, and well balanced. Children have a wide variety of healthy choices, including cereal, toast, fruit salad or smoothies for breakfast, as well as raw fruit and vegetables for their afternoon snack. Children are well protected as staff are fully aware of any allergies or food intolerances they may have. Children also have a choice of a simple hot pasta meal or sandwiches made with wholemeal bread for their tea. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about cooking and food every week, as the setting participates in the Lets Get Cooking project.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally well protected due to the suitable systems in place. Risk assessments are undertaken regularly and staff encourage children to take responsibility for their own safety, for example by reminding them to consider others whilst they play, or to sit on chairs safely. Visitors to the setting are monitored and there are safe arrangements in place when children are collected at the end of the day. There is a clear policy regarding children who fail to arrive at the club, however there is some risk to children as the policy regarding children who may be uncollected is not clear. Children are well protected from the hazards of fire as the fire evacuation plan is regularly practised. The club rooms look welcoming and inviting to children and resources are well maintained and well organised, where children can easily select.

Children's welfare is generally well protected as the staff are very clear regarding their responsibilities to safeguard all children in their care. They are aware of the steps they should take to share any concerns and record any incidents. However the policy is inconsistent with the practice and lacks the necessary detail regarding the steps to be taken in the absence of the named person responsible for safeguarding children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a wide range of interesting and worthwhile activities, and are settled, very well occupied and happy to be at their out of school club. Children are very confident and speak with infectious enthusiasm about their favourite activities. Staff are friendly and very good

humoured and work hard to create a friendly and relaxed atmosphere at the end of the school day where children can happily play or talk with their friends. Simple plans of the main activities are devised by the staff, which are more detailed during the school holidays; this ensures that children have access to a wide variety of play opportunities. Staff take regular opportunities to chat to children whilst they play together or eat their snack, and talk about what has happened during their school day. Children enjoy and some are particularly absorbed in the creative activities available. The stimulating range of materials, including glitter paint and pens as well as glue, card and ribbons encourage their creativity. Cooking is also very popular and children carefully follow the recipe, then enthusiastically beat the bun mixture. They readily explain why the buns rise, finally icing and decorating the finished product. They animatedly talk about making pizzas during the holidays which they then eat for their lunch.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children receive a warm welcome and are included in their club. Staff know the children well, and there is good continuity of care as many staff work in the school during the day, which enhances the children's sense of belonging. Children from other schools are also welcomed to the club in the school holidays. Children are valued and their self esteem is promoted when they can see their art work or excitedly show adults their creations. Good links exist between the staff and the school SENCO (special educational needs co-ordinator) and this helps to ensure the needs of all children are met and successfully promotes their inclusion. Children learn about diversity when they enjoy seasonal topics or themes about various cultures.

Although children are lively and exuberant they are well behaved and aware of the expectations for their behaviour in their club. They play harmoniously together, willingly sharing the resources, or taking turns when required. Children have helped to draw up the ground rules of their club, which encourages them to abide by them more readily. There are also clear policies in place which are shared with children's parents and carers. Staff communicate well with parents and carers and talk to all parents and carers as they collect their children, and policies as well as an simple informative prospectus keep parents and carers well informed about what is available for their children. Parents and carers appreciate the club and the care provided for their as the open communication they have with the staff regarding the needs of their children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The care of the children is enhanced due to the well organised approach of the staff, who work particularly well as a team to ensure that the club is efficiently run, as well as fun for the children. Good use is made of the various rooms, including the kitchen and ICT (information communication technology) room as well as outside areas to ensure children have a varied and enjoyable time in the out of school club, and children are always well supervised in the various areas. Staff are positive and have an enthusiastic approach to training and updating their knowledge. There is a clear induction programme and the appraisal systems are currently being reviewed. Ofsted is kept well informed about all changes, which also ensures that key staff are suitable to work with children. Appropriate documentation is in place, including detailed registration forms and fully completed children and staff registers, which further supports the welfare of the children. The setting meets the needs of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection the setting was asked to improve safety regarding kitchen hazards. A new kitchen area has now been made, which is clearly out of bounds to children unless supervised by an adult.

They were also asked to improve certain aspects of documentation regarding administration of medicine, and consent for emergency medical treatment. Most of these issues have been dealt with, but consent for emergency medical treatment is currently being updated.

The out of school club was also asked to improve parents and carers access to the child protection and complaints policies, as well as information regarding the regulator. The child protection policy is now included in the parents and carers pack, and the complaints policy includes information regarding the regulator.

This has resulted in an improvement of the care and welfare of the children.

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:

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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 the child protection policy contains information regarding the necessary procedures to be taken if the person responsible for safeguarding children is unavailable
- ensure there is a clear policy in place regarding children who may be uncollected.

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