

St. Marie's Before and After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY274797
Inspection date	08 October 2007
Inspector	Krystina Chitryn
Setting Address	St. Marie's RC Primary School, Avondale Street, Standish, Wigan, Lancashire, WN6 0LF
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Registered person	The Governing Body of St Marie's RC Primary School
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St Marie's Before and After School Club opened in 2003. It operates from St Marie's Primary School in Wigan.

It provides care for children from three to eight years. It is open from 07.30 to 08.45 and 15.15 to 18.00 hours, Monday to Friday, term time only. The out of school service provides care for pupils of the school and siblings.

The out of school club operates from allocated classrooms, the school hall, information and communication technology unit and playgrounds.

There are 10 staff and a manager who work with the children. Half of the staff hold an early years qualification to level 3 and one member of staff is working towards a recognised qualification in play work. The group is run by a voluntary management committee.

There are 43 children on roll, which includes children with special needs. There are no children in attendance who have English as an additional language.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally well protected from infection through satisfactory hygiene routines and the building is cleaned daily. Children are reminded to wash their hands prior to snack time. However, there is no discussion about the reasons why children wash their hands. Staff do not discuss with children the reasons for healthy eating and this does not extend children's knowledge of what is good for them. Children are protected through first aid procedures and equipment, however, the accident records do not state times and dates of accidents.

Staff provide healthy snacks and children help themselves to cut up fruit and vegetables, and pita bread. The children are able to help themselves to the food and it is available throughout the session. The children are not involved with the preparation of food. Children sit at the tables and there is a lot of laughter and talk. This provides them with the opportunities to develop their social interaction during snack time. Drinks are provided throughout the session and can help themselves when they want to. This ensures that children are hydrated and can make choices about drinking.

Children have satisfactory access to outdoor play activities in the school grounds, the children choose whether they want to play indoors or outdoors. They have access to a variety of equipment and play football, skipping and bat and ball games. This supports their physical skills and enables them to run around and participate in robust and active games.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The children benefit from secure space, both indoors and outside. They have adequate light and natural ventilation. Children use appropriate toilet facilities, which school staff clean daily. There is a sufficient range of suitable outdoor play equipment, which is clean and well maintained and is available. Children are kept mostly safe through the provision of equipment that meets the required safety standards. However, the fire drills are not regularly practised and this does not enable children to become familiar with the procedure.

The manager demonstrates a good understanding of the possible indicators that may give cause for concern about a child's safety and protection and she is aware of her responsibility to take appropriate action should she or a member of the staff have any concerns about a child. She is aware of the procedure if a member of staff is accused. Parents are given a written policy about this and it is available in the policy and procedure manual. This ensures parents are kept informed of procedures for their children's safety.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have a good variety of planned and free choice activities for indoor and outdoor play. All of which are appropriate to the ages and interests of children who attend. This enables children to make their own choices from the range of activities available.

The children enjoy a skipping game with staff turning the rope and offering encouragement to the children as they skip. This enables the children to feel valued and exercise. There is lots

of laughter and fun. The children are seen to cooperate with adults and their peers, they discuss what they want to do and work together to achieve this. This enables the children to feel valued and part of the group. Children can access the toys and equipment independently from the store cupboard enabling them to make choices. A group of children sit around the table and chat together, laughing and telling jokes. Children are valued and staff listen and talk to them throughout their time at the setting.

Children have a wide range of planned and free choice activities for indoor and outdoor play. All of which are appropriate to the ages and interests of children who attend. This enables children to make their own choices from the range of activities available. They benefit from choice about where and how they play.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff provide parents with a full range of policies and procedures on admission. This ensures they are given sufficient information to enable parents to have a full understanding of the groups practice. Families are made to feel welcome and generally information is shared verbally on a daily basis. Parents comment on how well they feel the group supports the children and parents.

All children are treated with equal concern. Staff have a sound understanding of anti-discriminatory practice in order to support positive attitudes being fostered. Boys and girls are encouraged to participate in all areas of play. Children have celebrated Chinese New Year and looked at different aspects of life including Chinese food, however, they have not looked at other cultures or the multicultural society. The children do not benefit from learning about the wider world.

Staff are aware of and support children's differences in the group to ensure that their individual needs are catered for. The children are learning about right and wrong. Children are reminded to take turns and listen to one another when they are talking. Children learn in an environment where good behaviour is fostered, and as a result they are well mannered. Their idea about the timer for the computer was adopted and this enables the children to feel part of the group and valued. Staff praise, encourage and use appropriate methods to ensure that the children are fully aware of the group's rules. This helps the children to understand and learn about acceptable behaviour.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from suitably registered, permanent staff that have appropriate training and qualifications. Details of staff training are kept in a portfolio and these are available to parents on request.

Most records are effectively maintained and all policies and procedures are in place, however the dates and times are not recorded consistently on the accident records. This does not ensure children's information is retained accurately. Records are retained for a suitable period and all records are stored securely on site. The documentation currently in place supports and promotes children's well-being. 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 group were asked to review documentation to ensure the accident record records details in full this has not been done consistently as the dates and time are omitted from some of the details, However, following discussion will be each child now has a separate page so information is not seen by another parent, that the behaviour statement includes bullying and that confidentiality is maintained.

Develop resources which reflect diversity especially in relation to disability. Has a box of figures and jigsaws discuss with the children about differences.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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 complaint 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):

- keep a detailed record of accidents including times and dates
- ensure regular fire drills are carried out.

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