

Schools Out Burbage

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY364428
Inspection date	18 June 2008
Inspector	Alison Edwards
Setting Address	Burbage C of E Infant School, Grove Road, Burbage, HINCKLEY, Leicestershire, LE10 2AE
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Registered person	Susan Elizabeth Kitching
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?

Schools Out Burbage registered in 2007 to provide out of school care to a maximum of 20 children aged under eight years. It is one of two clubs run by a private provider in Burbage in the Hinckley and Bosworth district of Leicestershire. It operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of Burbage Church of England Infants School. It opens from Monday to Friday during term-time, offering a breakfast club between 07:50 and 09:00 and after school provision from 15:15 to 17:30. There are currently 19 children on roll. Excluding the proprietor, there are two regular childcare staff. One of these holds a relevant qualification at Level 3 and the second is completing training at Level 2.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in clean and well-kept school premises, so helping to maintain their health. They understand the importance of following good hygiene practices within daily routines. For example, they talk about the reasons for using soap and paper towels to get rid of germs when washing their hands before having their afternoon snack. Staff maintain current

paediatric first aid training and keep first aid supplies readily accessible, so helping to ensure they are able to deal with any minor accidents effectively. They seek written parental consent to obtain emergency medical treatment, so helping to ensure they are able to manage any more serious accident or sudden illness in children's best interests.

Children benefit from frequent supervised access to the school grounds where they are able to enjoy energetic activities in the fresh air. For example, they use the play trail and tyre playground to move and balance in different ways or explore the use of a variety of equipment as they negotiate obstacle courses. Children enjoy a range of activities helping to promote their dexterity. For example, they show sustained interest as they fold and cut paper to make fans or paper boats. They use a variety of small tools such as tape dispensers and glue sticks to fasten box models together.

Arrangements for the provision of meals and snacks helps to contribute to a healthy diet and to ensure children are well-nourished. Children attending before school are offered healthy breakfast choices including cereals and fruit, whilst those attending after school enjoy varied snacks such as tea-cakes and choices of fresh and dried fruit. Drinks such as diluted squash or fresh drinking water are constantly available to children, so helping to ensure they drink plenty.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are confident and at ease when using the bright and well-organised playroom where they are able to play, eat and relax comfortably. For example, children wishing to have some quiet time readily use comfortable seating and a selection of interesting books in a quiet corner of the room. A varied selection of mark-making materials and construction items are readily accessible, either on low tables or in low storage units, so enabling children to readily exercise their independent creativity.

Good arrangements are in place to promote children's safety. For example, there are clear procedures in place for staff to check the whereabouts of any child who is expected to attend but is not present for collection from their classroom at the end of the school day. Staff are vigilant in checking that children only leave the club with authorised adults. They have a clear understanding of the procedures to be followed in the event of a child going missing or being uncollected at the end of the session, so enabling them to act promptly in children's best interests should any such incident occur. Children have a good awareness of how to act sensibly to minimise risks of accidents. For example, knowing that they are less likely to fall if they keep all four legs of a chair on the ground rather than swinging on it. Staff are effective in helping children extend their safety awareness. For example, they involve them in decisions about the best place to put an extensive railway layout to minimise the risk of others tripping over it.

Use of clear induction programmes and relevant local training sessions help ensure staff are clear on what child abuse and neglect mean and on the procedures to be followed in the event of any concerns about a child, so helping them to safeguard children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are consistently settled and relaxed within the friendly environment. They are confident in their dealings with adults and peers. For example, children negotiate shared use of an extensive rail layout; they talk with adults about the models they have made independently.

Staff encourage children's suggestions for future activities by regularly involving them in planning ideas for the following week. This helps to ensure that daily and weekly programmes are flexibly planned and suited to children's individual interests. Sessions are organised to offer children good levels of choice between a varied range of options helping to underpin their overall development. For example, children are able to extend their thinking and mathematical skills as they play a variety of board games. They readily use books for different purposes; they show interest in favourite stories, use simple factual books to extend their awareness of topics such as outer space or as they follow simple pictorial instructions to help them make a paper boat. They show good levels of concentration and persistence as they design and make items such as robots with cardboard cartons and tubes. They act out different experiences in simple role play activities based on a shop, Chinese restaurant or doctor's surgery, so helping them extend their imaginative play.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff are calm and caring in their dealings with children, so helping children feel confident and included in the group. Children begin to learn how to act responsibly for their own and others' well-being. For example, as they talk with staff about where to put an extensive rail layout to minimise risks of people tripping over it. They are routinely able to select between a varied range of activities, so enabling them to exercise choice and independence. Staff understand how to implement the policy underpinning their management of children's behaviour, for example, by using positive explanation and praise to encourage desired behaviour.

Children have ready access to a fair range of resources reflecting diversity such as books relating to different cultures and dressing up clothes in different styles. Staff are aware that children may have a range of learning difficulties and/or disabilities and are effective in helping all children participate fully within the club. Staff recognise the importance of having clear information from parents relating to children's individual health, care and diets. There are systems in place to record such information. However, at present these records are occasionally not used best used to ensure that staff have full and consistent details of how to manage any specific needs in children's best interests.

Prospective parents receive useful written information about arrangements for their children's care. Staff and parents share relevant information on children's experiences and activities through informal discussion on arrival or collection, so helping them work in partnership together to support children's care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Overall children's needs are met. Children are consistently busy and interested in their play and activities at this friendly setting. Arrangements are in place to ensure that there are sufficient cleared and suitably qualified staff to maintain required adult to child ratios, including unexpected events such as staff sickness. This helps to ensure children are supervised appropriately. All required policies and procedures are in place, but occasional details of these are not fully consistent with current national guidance, so not fully underpinning children's care to best effect. Records are in place regarding children's personal, contact and health details. However, these are not always used to best effect to ensure staff have optimal information about how to manage any specific health or care needs in children's best interests.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action 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):

- develop the use of children's records to provide full and relevant details of any individual health, care and dietary needs to ensure staff are fully aware of how to manage these in children's best interests
- ensure policies are fully compliant with current national guidance with particular regard to the procedures to be followed in the event of any formal complaint by parents or any child protection allegation against a staff member.

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