

St Catherine's Wrap around Care

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY358448
Inspection date	01 May 2008
Inspector	Anne Drinkwater
Setting Address	St Catherine's Community Centre. School Lane, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 6HS
Telephone number	0161 445 0577
E-mail	joanne.clark473@ntlworld.com
Registered person	Joanne Clarke
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?

St Catherine's Wrap Around care has been registered since 2007. The facility provides care for children who attend St Catherine's Roman Catholic School. The group operate from dedicated rooms with St Catherine's community centre and children have use of the school playground for outdoor play. The group is open from 07.30 to 08.45 and 15.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday and provides holiday care in the school holidays. The facility is registered to provide care for 32 children. The group gain support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children are cared for in premises that are well maintained and clean. They stay healthy because staff exercise hygiene practices to minimise the risk of cross infection. The children learn about personal care routines as they wash their hands at appropriate times of the day.

Children's dietary needs are well met because staff gather information from parents about their children's dietary requirements and take this information into account when planning snacks.

The menu is on display for parents' information. The children are well nourished and develop an awareness of healthy eating because the setting provides a menu that is well balanced and wholesome to aid children's growth and development. For example, snacks and meals include pasta, vegetables, toast, crumpets and a continuous provision of fresh fruits. Drinks are readily accessible to the children enabling them to quench their thirst independently. Snack time is a relaxed social occasion. The children are able to sit and chat to their friends and eat at their own pace.

The children have daily opportunities to enjoy the fresh air and outdoor environment. They have access to a good range of outdoor play equipment to help them learn about their bodies and to develop control and coordination.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment. There is lots of space available for the children to move around freely. Staff organise space well to accommodate a range of play activities and more restful activities. There is a good selection of furniture available allowing the children to play, rest and eat in comfort. The setting provides a growing range of resources to meet the needs of the children being cared for. The children are able to move around freely from one activity to another and choose what they wish to play with, helping them to initiate their own ideas and develop choice and independence. Staff check equipment and resources on a regular basis to minimise risks to children.

Staff have a good understanding of safety and all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that the environment in which children are cared for is safe and secure. Staff immediately report any safety issues. They supervise the children well enabling them to play safely and independently. Staff encourage children's learning in keeping themselves safe through daily routines, ground rules and discussion. Staff practise the emergency evacuation procedure with the children on a regular basis, helping the children to develop an understanding of what to do in the event of an emergency, such as a fire.

All required documentation is in place. All staff have attended training regarding child protection. They have a secure understanding of child protection matters and they are familiar with the procedures to follow if concerns are raised. As a result, the children are protected and their welfare is effectively safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Staff plan a focused activity each day, they also set out a range of other activities for the children, taking into account the children's ages and interests. Activities are set up to look interesting and inviting before the children arrive. The children have access to a wide range of activities and resources and they are actively engaged and occupied.

The atmosphere is calm and the children are able to relax after a day at school. Staff spend time playing and talking to the children and take an interest in what they do and say. They share warm relationships with the children, who are happy and secure in their care.

The children sit with staff and are engrossed in completing their puppets or salt dough models. Younger children play imaginatively with dolls and dressing up clothes.

The children clearly enjoy their time at the setting. They say they enjoy playing with their friends and playing games. The children comment that the staff are nice because they are kind to them.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff have a positive attitude towards children with learning difficulties and disabilities. They gather a wealth of information from parents about their children's individual needs to enable them to be in a position to best meet these needs. Children have equal access to full range of activities, they develop respect and promote positive social attitudes and respect for all. The children have access to some resources that promote positive images and reflect diversity, however, staff have not completed training in this area.

Staff have a good understanding of the behaviour management policy and are consistent in their approach to managing children's behaviour. Consequently, children receive a clear message of what is expected of them. Staff act as positive role models to the children. They treat them with care and respect and use 'please' and 'thank you'. The children are polite and behave well. Staff help the children find positive solutions and the children work well and are able to negotiate and problem solve.

The children develop a good sense of belonging and happily to play with their friends. The children show care and concern for one another. For example, a child takes a drink to their friend. The children clearly enjoy their time at the setting and thrive on staff's interaction and attention.

The parent's handbook includes information about the out of school facility and their written policies and procedures. Staff share good working relationships with parents, who are greeted warmly on arrival. Effective systems are in place to keep parents informed about their children's activities.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Suitably experienced and qualified staff helps to protect the children and the induction procedure gives staff a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Staff hold valid first aid certificates ensuring they have up to date knowledge of what to do in the event of an accident or minor injury. Staff work well together as a team and organise space, time and resources well to meet children's needs

Staff work well together as a team and organise space, time and resources well to meet children's needs. The record of children's attendance is up to date, however, it does not include the details of staff on duty. All required policies and procedures are in place and these work in practice to promote children's health, safety and ability to make a positive contribution. The required documentation is in place and is stored securely to maintain confidentiality.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable as this is the first inspection since registration.

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 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):

- update knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities and ensure children have access to a full range of resources to promote anti discriminatory play
- ensure staff attendance times are recorded in the register

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