

Yateley Manor Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	509544
Inspection date	06 August 2008
Inspector	Lynne Elizabeth Lewington

Setting Address	C/O Yateley Manor Preparatory School, 51 Reading Road, Yateley, Hampshire, GU46 7UQ
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Registered person	Yateley Manor School Limited
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?

Yateley Manor Play scheme has been established since 1990. The play scheme is held in Yateley Manor School in Yateley. The school facilities and grounds are used for the activities. The play scheme is open to the children of Yateley Manor School and also serves the families from the surrounding areas.

The play scheme is open Monday to Friday from 08:30 to 17:00 during the holidays. Younger children attend for a shorter day. The club is registered to care for a maximum of 150 children aged three to under eight years old. Older children also attend the play scheme. There are currently 75 children on roll. There are currently no children attending who have disabilities or who speak English as an additional language.

The manager holds a degree in child care and education and three members of staff are qualified teachers in the school. The majority of staff hold current First Aid certificates.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy very good opportunities to develop their physical skills in this setting. A range of interesting, fun activities, including swimming, games in the gym and the adventure playground, are offered. These enable the children to develop their coordination, balance, strength and stamina as they enthusiastically participate. Creative activities and games enable children to use their finer movements. For example, they carefully create pictures with Hama beads using good hand and eye coordination. Staff make sensible provision for children to relax if they wish in the afternoon, as many children get tired.

Children demonstrate a sensible awareness of appropriate hygiene routines as they wash their hands before participating in simple cooking activities and after toileting. Staff take good care to ensure clear information is gathered from parents to ensure children's individual health and dietary needs are fully understood and met throughout the day. The majority of staff hold a first aid certificate and first aid resources are easily available to deal with any accidents which may occur.

Children enjoy good quality, nutritious meals, prepared for them freshly each day on the premises. For example, they enjoy pasta with a choice of sauces, fresh crusty bread, salad, and cheese, followed by fresh fruit or a banana desert. Water is available with lunch and squash throughout the day. A biscuit snack mid morning and afternoon help to ensure children have energy for the energetic activities they undertake. No information is displayed for parents regarding the food offered to the children.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The environment is very well maintained and provides comfortable attractive accommodation for the children's care and play. Very good use is made of the available resources, enabling the children to enjoy a varied and interesting day. They use a well maintained swimming pool, classrooms, gymnasium, playing fields and adventure playground for their activities. Meals are cooked and prepared in a purpose built, well equipped kitchen and served appropriately in a dining area.

Equipment is well maintained and suitable for the ages of the children attending. Comfortable seating and low level tables and chairs enable them to participate in activities comfortably. The adventure play equipment provides challenges, enabling children to develop their confidence and skills as they play.

Generally, good care is taken to promote children's safety. Staff talk to the children about safe behaviour before they undertake activities and encourage children to think about their behaviour. For example, they share ideas of how to play the pirate game in the gym safely and use computer equipment safely. The premises are secure and suitable procedures are in place to record children's attendance.

Whilst staff have a verbal awareness of what they would do if a child went missing, there is no clear policy regarding this. An evacuation drill has not been undertaken. Fire exits are kept

clear and staff verbally demonstrate a clear knowledge of how they would evacuate the premises. However, some children are not pupils of the school and the routines are not familiar to them.

Children are safeguarded by the staff's awareness of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and the action they should take to report concerns to their manager. However, the policy does not clearly indicate the requirement to inform children's services of concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive confidently and settle into the environment easily. They freely move between activities in the main play area, making choices in their play. The ball pool encourages imaginative games and stories as they direct each other and act out story lines. Creative activities such as decorating biscuits with icing sugar and sweet treats are popular and encourage the children to use their fine movements as they include various decorations on their biscuits.

Children enthusiastically participate in pirate and traffic light games in the gymnasium, they listen attentively as the adult explains the game, share their ideas, develop their competitive spirit and ability to accept defeat graciously. Many volunteer for the swimming activities each day and develop their independence as they undress and dress for the activity.

Staff listen very attentively to the children and help the children to identify the activities they would like to undertake. For example, two children who enjoy sports activities join with older children to participate in more structured sports activities and children who wish to be with siblings are made welcome.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Positive steps are taken to ensure that all children can participate equally in the activities, irrespective of their abilities or gender. The setting's policies promote anti-discriminatory practices and all children are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

Children behave well. Staff set good examples to the children as they act as good role models to them, using good manners at all times. Children demonstrate their developing social skills as they help each other, share, and cooperate as they play games and take turns. They hold doors open for the next person and staff praise and encourage their actions enthusiastically.

Positive relationships with parents are encouraged as the staff warmly greet and share information with them when they arrive and collect their children. The certificate is displayed to inform parents of the setting's conditions of registration, however, the policies are not easily accessible to parents to enable them to fully understand how the setting works.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the enthusiastic staff team's commitment to their roles. The experienced staff team hold degrees in child care and education and teaching certificates, ensuring they have a good understanding of children's needs. Appropriate procedures ensure staff are suitable to be working with children, however, no formal induction process is in place for staff participating in the holiday play scheme.

Good care is taken to provide a healthy environment where children enjoy and achieve and to ensure resources are used effectively for the safe enjoyment and recreation of the children. However, further improvements are needed to ensure the policies are easily available and support the practice of the setting. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection a number of actions were identified. These related to the recording of accidents and the administration of medication, understanding and implementing the requirements of registration and ensuring parents had information regarding making complaints. Positive steps have been taken in all areas to improve the service offered. The manager demonstrates a satisfactory understanding of the requirements of registration and has implemented policies to support the setting's work and meet requirements. A complaints policy is now available. Suitable procedures are in place for the safe administration of medication and clear recording of both medication and accidents is undertaken efficiently, providing a clear record of any action taken. These improvements help to promote the safety and welfare of the children.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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):

- provide parents with information on meals provided
- improve policy and knowledge regarding safeguarding children procedures
- provide and implement a lost children's policy
- practise the evacuation procedure and maintain a record of the event
- provide parents with easy access to policies
- develop an induction procedure for new staff

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