

Fairisle School Community Pre-nursery & Munchies Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY360202
Inspection date	21 May 2008
Inspector	Helen Mary Ball
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Registered person	The Governing Body of Fairisle Infant & Nursery School
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Sessional 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?

Fairisle School Community Pre-nursery and Munchies Club were registered in 2007. The Pre-nursery meets in the community building and the Munchies Club meets in a dedicated classroom within the infant school, which is situated in the Lordshill area of Southampton. A maximum of 16 children may attend the pre-nursery at any one time, and a maximum of 24 children may attend the Munchies Club. The settings are open each weekday during term time and children attend for a variety of sessions. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 16 children on roll in the pre-nursery and 20 children on roll in the Munchies Club. The settings support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also support a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

Each setting employs three staff, all of whom hold suitable qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Staff in the pre-nursery are vigilant in ensuring that children are protected from the spread of infection. For example, staff ensure that children wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet; they ensure tables are clean and they wear gloves when changing children. Children are very well protected in the event of minor accidents because the managers of both settings have current first aid qualifications. Children's health is very well promoted because they have free access to the enclosed outside play area throughout each session.

Children at the pre-nursery are well nourished because they enjoy a selection of fruits at snack time as well as milk and water. Children at the Munchies Club benefit from an extensive range of foods available to them in the mornings. Staff display a weekly menu and this includes daily "specials" of hot breakfasts, such as beans on toast and scrambled egg. In addition, they have unlimited access to fruits, toast, muffins, a wide range of cereals and fruit smoothies. Staff encourage children to try new foods and reward children with special stickers for doing so. Children leave the breakfast club extremely well fed and ready to start their school day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The pre-nursery is bright, welcoming and warm. There is ample space for children to move and play freely. Children greatly benefit from a large, fully enclosed play area and they use this to good effect. Children's pictures and artwork are displayed on the walls and this gives children a clear sense of belonging. Children have free access to a wide range of well-maintained toys and equipment which meets their developmental needs. Children are confident in asking for further resources and staff respond to them quickly and with encouragement. The Munchies club is an exceptionally bright, welcoming environment for children, and pictures are displayed around the breakfast club showing children eating healthy foods. Children enjoy the music playing in the background, and this creates a cheerful ambience.

The pre-nursery and Munchies club are safe and suitable settings for children. Staff in both groups ensure children's safety because they carry out daily risk assessments and hold regular fire drills. Staff are very effectively deployed so that children are well supervised, and staff are skilled at ensuring children's safety whilst not compromising their independence.

Children are effectively safeguarded in both settings because staff have clear procedures that they would follow in the event of concerns about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

In the pre-nursery children have great fun. They join the group confidently and enthusiastically; they benefit from a wide range of toys and equipment that excites and interests them. Children respond very well to staff, who show great interest in what children do. Staff develop children's activities in accordance with children's own interests. For example, after working with a child on comparing the sizes of bears, the member of staff continued the activity by talking to the child about Goldilocks and the three bears. This helped the child to understand the concept of size in context.

Staff are extremely skilled at supporting children's learning by playing alongside and introducing new vocabulary to the children as they play. For example, children find the medical kit and staff show children how to listen to heart beats and introduce the word stethoscope. Staff have recently introduced a system to record observations on children so that they can directly link planned activities to children's stages of development. This system is still work in progress and has not yet fully impacted on children's learning in the pre-nursery. Children greatly benefit from the continuous provision where they can play indoors or outside as they wish. They enjoy the group activities, such as singing when they join in with action rhymes and songs with gusto.

The Munchies club is very well attended and children arrive enthusiastic and ready to join their friends for breakfast. Children are exceptionally relaxed and relate extremely well to the friendly approach by staff. Children happily report that the breakfast club is "brilliant with yummy food". When they have finished eating, children take part in a variety of games and activities. Children are very excited to report that there is a family of blue tits nesting in the adjacent quadrangle and talk about how they can watch the progress of the birds using a CCTV camera in the nesting box. Children are very familiar with the routines and join in with clearing toys without any prompting. Their behaviour is exceptionally good and they join their class at the start of each day extremely well nourished.

Overall, children flourish in the care of these two settings.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated with equal concern and respect both in the pre-nursery and the Munchies club. Resources reflect positive images of society, and children have high levels of self-esteem because staff offer consistent and relevant praise and encouragement. The settings welcome children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

Children learn to share and take turns, and staff give constant feedback to children so they know what they are doing well. The good organisation and presentation of activities impacts on children's behaviour. They are interested and busy throughout the sessions and staff are consistent in their explanations to children. This promotes very good behaviour in both the pre-nursery and the Munchies club.

Partnership with parents is an exceptionally strong feature of the settings. Parents are very well supported and welcomed into the groups. Parents of children attending the pre-nursery who feel less secure about leaving their children are invited to stay in the parent room where they can watch their children through a one-way mirror. This is reassuring to both parents and children. Staff at the breakfast club ensure that any messages from parents are passed to the appropriate teachers.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The organisation of the both the pre-nursery group and Munchies club is good. Staff are suitably qualified and effectively deployed. The rooms are organised so that children can move around without restriction, and the continuous provision in the pre-nursery means that children have free access to the enclosed outside area. Most paperwork is in place, although some requires further detail and some parental consents have not been obtained. The setting has a comprehensive range of policies and procedures which underpin children's health and welfare.

Several groups take advantage of the Sure Start facilities on this site. For example, there are well established family-link services, such as mother and baby groups and toddler groups. In addition, children attend the pre-nursery community group. These children learn a wide range of basic skills and this enables them to move to the on-site maintained nursery very well prepared. The nursery and pre-nursery work closely together and this means that children experience a seamless transition.

Overall, the setting meets the needs 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):

- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment
- ensure that the attendance registers record children's exact times of arrival and departure

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