

St Anthony's After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY293552
Inspection date	16/12/2008
Inspector	Denise Sixsmith
Setting address	The Annexe, St. Anthonys Drive, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 3SQ
Telephone number	07890715856
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Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

St Anthony's After School Club is run by a group of Trustees. It registered in 2005 and operates from three rooms in a single storey building situated next door to a primary school on the outskirts of Preston, Lancashire. Children have access to a coffee lounge, quiet room and sports hall.

There is disabled access to the setting with assisted toilet facilities being available.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 07.45 to 08.50 and 15.10 to 17.30 during term time. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 27 children aged under eight years on roll of which four are in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The setting is registered on the Early Years register, the Childcare register and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. The setting currently supports a number of children with disabilities and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The nursery employs five members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The committee is supportive of the staff team to ensure that the needs of the children are met well and their welfare promoted. The policies and procedures promote an inclusive environment for the children. Staff place an emphasis on providing a safe, clean and warm environment where the children enjoying their time at the club at the beginning and end of their school day. However, the lack of a sufficiently developed self assessment system means that there are areas of the EYFS that have not been fully developed.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to increase knowledge of the EYFS, in particular how observation and assessment is used for planning the children's next steps for learning. Ensure that sufficient information is gained from other settings who provide the main part of the child's education and care to ensure that any activities provided are appropriate and compliment the individual child's needs at that time of the day
- review the procedure for the securing of the building when staff leave it unattended to ensure intruders cannot enter the premises
- continue to develop the self-evaluation system to ensure that all aspects of regulation are met consistently
- update documentation to ensure it reflects the EYFS and the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The committee is proactive in ensuring that an appropriate recruitment and selection process is in place and this is followed through with an ongoing appraisal system. Organisation of daily routines and staffing levels are appropriate, which means children are well supported and protected during their time at the club. Sufficient staff hold a relevant childcare qualification. Training programmes have been established to support staff to achieve a recognised qualification and, for those who are qualified, to further extend their knowledge and skills.

The setting has a range of policies, procedures and practices in place to protect the children. All records required for the safe and efficient management of the club are in place and completed consistently by staff. Policies and procedures are in place as well as complaints information for parents, however, some of the policies and procedures have not been updated to fully reflect the EYFS. Staff follow clear procedures to promote children's good health and well-being. For example, accident records are in place and shared with parents as required and a number of staff hold a current first aid certificate.

Systems for monitoring the quality of the provision are at an early stage of development and do not fully critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of the setting. Children's individual requirements are known and catered for, because staff work with parents from the start of the placement to obtain appropriate information. However, insufficient attention is given to the development of systems for the learning and development of children and the gaining of sufficient information from other settings who provide the main part of the child's education and care.

Staff ensure that children are safeguarded as there is a satisfactory safeguarding children policy with relevant information to enable them to understand what they should do in the event of needing to report concerns. However, while required components are in the policy it has not been updated to reflect the introduction of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Nominated staff have had the opportunity to attend training to develop their understanding and confidence with regards to child protection issues. Contact details are easily accessible should the need arise to report any concerns are included in the policy and clearly displayed on the notice board.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children look forward to attending the club and chatting with their friends. They benefit from regular exercise and fresh air as they play in the outside play area, weather permitting. They develop their gross motor skills and coordination by playing a variety of ball and team games in the large sports hall during inclement weather. Staff are consistent in their approach to managing children's behaviour as a result children behave in a responsible manner and respond positively to staffs

praise of their achievements.

Children are learning about aspects of healthy eating as staff provide fruit in the children's diet. They choose from a range of snacks, such as wraps, fruit, cheese slices, tuna, ham and cherry tomatoes and cereal. Children have ready access to water throughout the session, as well as choice of juice at snack times. The content of the snack menu has been developed through consultation with parents and children to ensure needs and likes are provided for as well as a healthy aspect observed. Staff organise the resources and furniture effectively so that children have appropriate freedom of movement and access to a range of toys and activities which promote their learning, enjoyment and development. For example, children enjoy a game of chess or sit with friends to create a Christmas card from the glitter and sparkle resources available. Staff use and rotate equipment from the store to supplement and provide additional interest and stimulation on a regular basis. A satisfactory range of resources are available that reflect difference and children learn about a variety of cultures through topics which include festivals and foods.

A security system and policy is in place for the building and outdoor play area, however, the inspectors were not asked to sign the visitors book and the rear door was left open at the start of the session. Children are aware of the club rules and that they are in place to ensure their safety and well-being, for example, they are aware that they should not answer the door, leave things on the floor or run in quiet areas. A fire drill procedure is in place and practised to ensure that children are aware of the dangers and what to do in an emergency.

Staff are careful to promote good health and well-being for all children through good practice taken to prevent the spread of infection, and appropriate action taken when children are ill. A key workers system is in place for the children and staff work closely with parents and professionals to support children's individual needs. Parents spoken to are very supportive of the group and feel that it has a friendly atmosphere where they feel confident that their children are secure and happy.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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.