



Turncroft Nursery School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY280038
Inspection date	06 October 2005
Inspector	Ann Bamford
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Registered person	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Full day 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?

Turncroft Nursery offers full day care and before and after school care alongside Nursery Education, the setting has been registered since 2004. It is situated just outside the centre of Darwen and is close to transport links and other local amenities. It can provide care for up to 71 children at any one time.

Children have use of the whole building. There are integral toilet and kitchen facilities. There is a large outdoor play area. Care is available from 07.45 until 17.30 each weekday during school term times outside planned nursery education sessions. In addition the setting offers a three week holiday club during the long summer break

from 10.00 until 14.00.

The setting has a total of 13 staff, two of whom work on a part time basis. Two staff hold teaching qualifications and all other staff hold childcare qualifications at National Vocational Level three or equivalent. The setting supports children who have special needs.

At the time of inspection there were 88 children on roll, all of whom attend on a part time basis.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children stay healthy as staff have a clear understanding of their role in stopping the spread of infections. Children are developing a good understanding of effective hygiene as they wash their hands independently before food and after using the toilet.

Food is provided which meets with religious and individual dietary needs, which means that children are nourished effectively. They are developing an awareness of how food keeps their bodies healthy as they discuss how drinking milk strengthens their bones, or encourage each other to try different types of fruit offered at snack time.

Children are developing strong, healthy bodies as they have regular access to outdoor play which encourages them to develop peddling and climbing skills. Children are developing good balancing and manoeuvring skills as they have frequent opportunity to use scooters, bikes and other wheeled objects along a playground roadway.

Staff have a good awareness of children's individual needs in relation to rest and sleep. Children's good health is enhanced as practitioners skilfully encourage individual children to enjoy a rest whilst enjoying a quiet story.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children's safety is assured by the secure indoor and outdoor environment. Staff make effective use of risk assessments and routine checks to ensure the environment remains safe. Children are developing an awareness of their own safety as they are assisted to choose equipment which they can use efficiently. The wide variety of equipment, such as bikes, enhances children's ability to choose their own equipment against their individual competency.

Children are kept safe on outings as the staff make effective use of the written policy and procedures which ensures that risk assessments are undertaken and staff ratios

are increased. Practitioners use of set routines for walking safely and crossing roads, when operating the walking bus, enable children to develop strategies for negotiating traffic safely.

The staff have a clear understanding of their role in the protection of children which ensures that they are safe in the provision. However, children's pre-existing injuries are not recorded which limits their ability to act in certain circumstances.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time spent at the nursery. Most children achieve very well because the staff are skilled in the use of the foundation stage curriculum to provide quality care and education. However, the setting has not yet developed use of a framework such as "Birth to three matters" which restricts the progress of children aged under three.

Children make excellent progress as a result of the adult's reviews of what that child can already do. The involvement of parents in planning helps children achieve the next steps in their development. The records kept of children's work encourage children's pride in their own learning.

Children are becoming competent learners. The setting's use of effective routines and the encouragement of children to sit comfortably to listen to and take part in stories enhances their enjoyment of learning. Good quality interaction between the adults and children encourages them to develop, for example counting skills and language development.

Children are developing strong communication skills as they share experiences in circle time. They talk to the group, appearing to enjoy the experience. This helps develop warm and caring relationships with each other. Adults arrange activities in a way which enhances children's use of initiative as they are able to select from a wide range of activities throughout each session.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children are developing an excellent awareness of the wider world as they have constant access to toys and equipment which celebrate the difference in language and culture. This is enhanced further by the attention that is paid to providing them with food, which reflects their own cultural needs such as halal meat.

Staff are well trained in educating and caring for children with special needs. This ensures that children who do have specific needs are fully integrated into the setting and have their individual needs met whilst having the same access to activities as all other children.

Children's behaviour is excellent as they are fully involved in making decisions

throughout their time spent in the setting. They frequently make choices about how to act and are encouraged to be actively involved in decisions about when they will play out or have snacks. Children are developing a strong understanding of their own needs and those of others as they play collaboratively together. Older children are confident in their ability to assist younger children, for example to negotiate the slide safely. This creates a warm and supportive atmosphere for all children to develop new skills.

Partnership with parents is notable as parents are involved with the development of the service at every level. They sit on the governing body, respond to questionnaires around development, are part of the planning for the child's entry into the nursery, receive good quality information about how care is offered and regular feedback on how their child is progressing whilst being cared for. This creates an environment where children have their individual needs met in an efficient manner.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

The setting organises its time and resources very effectively to provide care for children. The transition from the school nursery setting to the wrap around childcare is seamless for children due to the dedicated planning of the adults involved.

All policies and procedures are individual to the setting and are well understood by staff and students in the setting. There are robust systems in place to ensure that staff have a continued clarity in their care of children through the efficient use of the training and development plan. Staff are selected carefully for the skills they will bring to the team of skilful practitioners. This ensures that the adults who work with children consistently give utmost priority to promoting children's wellbeing and enhancing their potential.

Practitioners work effectively as a team to ensure that children's individual needs are identified and met whilst children enjoy their time spent in the setting. Adults' commitment to communicating effectively enhances children's pleasure in learning.

Overall, the setting meets the needs of children who attend very effectively.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report. 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 a system of recording what children aged under three can do based on a framework such as "birth to three matters"
- ensure that all appropriate information about children's pre-existing injuries are recorded

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk