

Windmill Minors Playclub

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	102769
Inspection date	14/05/2009
Inspector	Ronald Hall
Setting address	Tolgus Vean, Redruth School, Redruth, Cornwall, TR15 1TA
Telephone number	01209 210820
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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 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

Windmill Minors Playclub was registered to provide care in 2000. This privately run setting operates from premises in Tolgus Vean on the Redruth School campus. It has an enclosed outdoor play area and access to the school playground and fields. The setting takes children from several local schools and surrounding areas.

The setting is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register, to care for a maximum of 37 children under eight at any one time. There are currently 160 children aged from four to eight years on roll, five of whom are in the early years age group. Older children may also attend. Children attend a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, having good disabled access facilities.

The club opens five days a week all year round. Sessions during term time are from 08:00 until 09:00 and from 15:30 until 18:00. Holiday sessions are from 08:00 until 18:00. During term time there are a maximum of six full-time staff working with the children. During holidays a maximum of seven full-time staff work with the children. All members of staff have National Vocational Qualifications at level 2 or 3. The playclub receives support from the local authority. The setting has links with its sister units and several other early years provisions within the schools from which the children attend.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding. The highly trained staff make excellent use of the well resourced, bright and imaginative environment and are very successful in meeting the needs of all children. The provision is fully inclusive. There is outstanding capacity for future continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- ensure the kitchen area is not accessible to the children

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Self-evaluation is excellent and staff, at all levels, are fully aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the provision. Planning and recording systems are good but need to include more activities explicitly for children in the early years age group. The setting has made excellent progress since the last inspection and has outstanding capacity for future development. Regular meetings and continued professional development ensure the sharing of good practice; effective

opportunities to evaluate progress and make necessary changes to ensure high standards.

Staff and parents share an outstanding partnership. Parents are kept fully informed of their children's learning. Questionnaires have been used to assess the views of parents and leaders state these have demonstrated parents are very supportive. Staff use emails, newsletters and daily discussions to ensure all parents are fully aware of all aspects of the provision.

Leaders and managers ensure that the children are safeguarded extremely well. Documentation and compliance with regulations and systems ensure all children are kept safe. Risk assessments are robust and daily checks ensure that all areas are well maintained and that children are kept safe. Currently, however, the kitchen area is not sufficiently inaccessible to the children.

Management work effectively with several other early years provisions. They also use both the local authority advisors and their sister group managers to monitor and review the work of the provision. There are also good links with a wide range of other professionals to ensure all the needs of the children are met.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children enter the provision happily and enjoy their learning, engaging in a wide range of activities, which are supported and enhanced by both the staff and older pupils. A clear and accurate understanding of the children is used to ensure the needs of all children are met. All areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage programme and the Every Child Matters agenda are covered. All staff are diligent and highly effective in sustaining the children's welfare. The children's outstanding relationships with the older pupils and with the staff reflect a very supportive culture of enjoyment and mutual respect. This also gives the children an outstanding understanding of others in the community. Children feel very safe and secure and have a good basic understanding of healthy living and lifestyles.

The outdoor area provides the children with good opportunities for physical as well as imaginative play. Children make good contributions to their learning and show enthusiasm. Children enjoy learning how to play pool, being taught by one of the older pupils, and discuss with each other how to make various shots. Staff constantly engage the children in conversation, enhancing and extending their learning. Whilst playing with a marble run game the children are encouraged to solve problems and be imaginative in creating their run. Both staff and other pupils question and challenge them to make it more difficult and complex. As a result, children make outstanding progress across all the areas of learning.

The children's language and communication skills are outstanding and a strength of the provision. All the children are confident and independent, engaging in conversation with each other and adults with ease. The unit has separate art, sensory, computer and relaxation rooms, which, coupled with the main area, allow staff to provide a very wide range of activities to stretch the children, as well as providing opportunities for those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. As a

result, children are very effectively prepared for the next stage of their education.

Children are very polite and socialise with each other and with older pupils exceptionally well. They share resources and care about the feelings of others.

Behaviour is excellent, and the children's very positive attitude to learning and their confident approach prepare them extremely well for their future learning.

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?	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	1

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	1
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	1
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	1
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	1

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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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