

St. Anthony's Night Owls

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY343800
Inspection date 09/07/2009
Inspector Sheila Boyle

Setting address St. Anthonys RC Primary School, Sydenham Drive,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV31 1NJ
Telephone number 01926 428800
Email
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

St Anthony's Night Owls was registered in 2006 and operates from accommodation within St Anthony's Catholic Primary school. It is situated in the Sydenham area of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. A maximum of 26 children between the ages of four and 11 years may attend the setting at any one time. The breakfast and after school provision is open on week days from 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:30 to 17:00 in term time. It operates from its own room in the school; It also has access to the hall, as well as all the outdoor play facilities, including a picnic area. There are currently ten children aged from four to 11 years on roll, two are below school age. The provision is open to pupils from St Anthony's school and children generally come from the local area. The setting is able to support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also children who speak English as an additional language. The out of school provision employs two members of staff, who both hold appropriate early years qualifications. The club has close links with the school including its Early Years Foundation Stage provision and it receives support from the local authority. The provision is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The accommodation has suitable access for disabled persons via a ramp to the main entrance. All of the provision is on the ground floor.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

This out of school club provision is satisfactory with several good features. Both workers are well organised and use good procedures to ensure children's safety and well being. The requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are understood by staff, and as a result, all children make satisfactory progress in their learning and good progress in personal and social development. The provision is enhanced through effective links with parents and the school's staff. The setting has a clear and effective awareness of inclusive practices and children with additional needs are well supported. Self-evaluation is at an early stage of development, nevertheless the provision has satisfactory capacity to improve.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure all staff undertake up-to-date training in child protection procedures.
- ensure that all policies including those relating to the welfare of children are updated to reflect good practices and safety routines.
- develop a system for self-review and evaluation and devise a plan to show how the provision is to be improved and developed.
- improve short-term planning so that it identifies the learning opportunities and activities that the younger children will experience when they attend the club.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The day to day organisation and running of the provision is satisfactory. The provision meets the requirements of the Childcare Register. Procedures for safeguarding children are good and include a daily safety check of the premises and accommodation and regular fire drills. Some policies including those relating to the welfare of children require updating to reflect the current good practices and safety routines. The requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are understood by staff as a result of training and the good links with the school's Early Years Foundation Stage. Weekly planning however is very general and does not reflect the learning opportunity and activities that younger children experience when they attend the club. It is not clear for example when children have opportunities for role play or engage in musical activities. Assessment of their learning is mainly through observations. As a result of the good links with parents and the school's Early Years provision, children make a smooth, happy transfer from one setting to the other. Face-to-face meetings with the parents and the information provided in the 'Early Birds Parent Pack' ensure parents are kept well informed about the activities offered to their children. The staff are committed to continuous improvement and recommendations made at the last inspection have been successfully addressed. Self-evaluation is at an early stage of development, however there is a desire to improve the provision by updating policies, developing planning and participating in additional training.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children enjoy their time at the club because they meet their friends from different classes and have access to a suitable range of play and learning resources including, story books, board games, craft materials and equipment for indoor and outdoor games. There is a strong emphasis on the promotion of children's social skills and self confidence. Children play in mixed aged groups and take part in competitive games both indoors and outside. There are planned opportunities for creative development because each week a topic is identified where children can explore different materials and work independently. During the visit for example, children were making scrap books to use during the summer holidays. Children learn about people from their own and other countries through stories and the celebration of feasts such as St George's Day, St Patrick's day and the Chinese New Year. Children have prepared and cooked snacks and deserts including those from countries such as Spain and France. They enjoy playing games in the hall or using the outdoor play facilities. Their activities contribute well to their physical and social development. Children learn tolerance and respect for others and make a positive contribution by engaging in celebrations such as birthdays and by contributing to the school's fund raising activities. Some contributed toys for the summer fare and some of the children made decorations for the tables when the school had its Christmas lunch. Children are developing healthy lifestyles by taking regular exercise and eating healthy snacks at tea-time. As part of the drive to promote healthy living, they will be making tooth brush holders to take home. Hygiene routines such as washing their hands before meals are followed. They learn the importance of staying safe through the effective registration and the

checks made by staff each time they leave the building and return from outdoor activities. Children use equipment safely when they explore different materials in craft sessions, when they help with the preparing of snack and drinks, or help with setting out play equipment. Children develop counting skills when they play team games and undertake craft activities. However, they have few planned opportunities to engage in singing and dancing or participate in role play activities. Children enjoy secure relationships with members of staff who understand their individual needs. Children demonstrate good behaviour and respect the feeling of others.

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?	2
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?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

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?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met