



Spangles

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY304267
Inspection date	14 September 2005
Inspector	Mary Anne Henderson
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Registered person	Partnership of S Titchen and J Naylor
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Spangles was registered in 2005. It operates from a demountable building sited in the school grounds of Whitchurch C of E Junior School in Shropshire. The setting serves the local area.

The group is registered to care for 24 children from 3 years to under 8 years old. There are currently 28 children from 3 years to under 8 years old on roll. The setting supports children with special needs. The group provides care before and after school and also during the school holidays.

There are four members of staff who work directly with the children all of whom have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the Local Education Authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a range of healthy fruit choices for snack times including bananas, apples, pears and sometimes they have carrot sticks. They have access to fresh drinking water at all times in the main play rooms. Children's dietary and religious requirements are recorded by parents and acknowledged by the staff.

Children enjoy being involved in activities and stories about hygiene, however, children's health is compromised as they do not always wash their hands before eating and at times there is no soap available to them in the toilets.

Children's physical development is promoted. They access a range of activities which contribute well to their health and well being. They have lots of opportunities to access the outdoor play areas where they can run around in the fresh air, play football, cricket and other ball games. They are able to make choices about playing indoors or outdoors as they wish, weather permitting.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Areas used by the children are bright and welcoming. The space is well organised to meet the varying needs of the children attending and screens are used well to cordon off areas for various activities. The children enjoy free access to an interesting range of resources and equipment most of which are kept at low level to encourage children's independence.

Children are able to move around safely, freely and independently. There are strategies in place to check indoor and outdoor areas before the children arrive. However, the risk assessment format used by staff for checking areas, equipment and resources has not been updated to include all elements as outlined in the National Standards and guidance.

Children's safety and welfare is partly promoted as the staff are qualified in first aid and they also have an understanding of child protection issues in line with the local Area Child Protection Committee procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

There is a warm and welcoming atmosphere as children arrive at the setting. They

make themselves at home and settle well undertaking a range of activities of their choice. The children show very good skills in independence as they choose freely from a range of interesting and challenging activities. They are self-motivated and interested in what they do. They are able to choose to play either indoors or outdoors depending on the weather.

The children enjoy a range of resources and equipment that supports their emotional, physical and intellectual skills. For example, they play outdoor team games such as football and cricket and they have free access to a broad range of craft activities each day such as dough, paints, drawing and cut and glue.

The children make good use of the indoor areas where they can choose to play on the play-station, have some quiet time with a book or a video or complete some homework tasks with the support of the staff.

The children are happy and self-motivated and they enjoy the company of their peers and the staff.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children with specific needs are well supported. The staff work closely with parents and carers, the school and other professionals to ensure inclusion, consistency and continuity. To promote children's self-esteem they are encouraged to make their own choices about what they want to do and they are praised throughout the session for their efforts.

Children freely enjoy a range of resources and activities that promotes an understanding of diversity and the wider world. For example, they use resources that reflect positive images of culture, religion and people with disabilities and they explore a range of cultural festivals such as Chinese New Year and Diwali.

Children are beginning to have an awareness of the local community as they go on outings to the shops, Heritage centre, library and the local parks.

Children's behaviour is good. Older more able children are keen to involve the younger children in table top activities such as a game of pool. Children's sense of belonging is well fostered as their work is valued and displayed around the room for them and their parents to enjoy.

Children's individual requirements are recorded by the parents and acknowledged by the staff. There are positive relationships between the staff and the parents and verbal two way feedback is encouraged by staff who include the children in the discussion. Parents have access to an informative notice board where they also have free access to the policies of the setting.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The organisation of space is effectively used to ensure free access to the resources and equipment. Areas are comfortable and homely and the children feel welcome within the environment. Adult to child ratios are good and the staff plan the routines well ensuring children's needs and preferences are acknowledged and supported.

Paperwork is stored in good order and maintained in line with requirements. Records are shared with the parents which contributes well to the children's health, safety and welfare.

There is a range of policies in place to support the service provided. However, the policies have not been updated to include all elements as outlined in the National Standards and guidance.

Overall, the needs of all of the children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 satisfactory. 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):

- promote children's health by ensuring they wash their hands before eating
- promote children's health by ensuring soap is available in the toilets at all times
- update the risk assessment format to include all elements as outlined in the National Standards and guidance
- update policies to include all elements as outlined in the National Standards and guidance.

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