



Broughton Manor Preparatory School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY254264

Inspection date 26 September 2005

Inspector Ann Hilary Guy

Setting Address Broughton Manor, Newport Road, Broughton, Milton Keynes,
MK10 9AA

Telephone number 01908 665234

E-mail

Registered person Pauley Group Ltd.

Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Full day 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?

Broughton Manor Preparatory School is privately owned. It registered its nursery in 2002 and operates from a purpose built building in Milton Keynes.

A maximum of 84 children under 3 years may attend the nursery at any one time. The nursery is open 46 weeks a year from 07.30 to 18.30. All children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 61 children aged from 3 months to 3 years on roll. Children mainly come from the local area.

The group employs 24 staff. Of these 16 staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Three staff are working towards furthering their qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children experience a wide range of stimulating activities that contribute to their good health. Their physical skills are well developed and extended as they both play inside the building, making good use of the corridor space, and outside, in the well equipped age appropriate play areas. They make very good use of the age appropriate indoor climbing apparatus that is permanently available, with the oldest children transforming it into a wide variety of things that relate to their topic, for example 'Homebase'. The younger group successfully incorporate their outdoor 'train' climbing apparatus into an active part of their transport topic. Children attending the out of school club enjoy a wide range of physically challenging activities, appropriate for their age group. A central record of accidents is maintained in the office, most of which have been countersigned by parents.

The children have a developing understanding of good health and hygiene practices, reinforced by the daily routine. Equipment mouthed by babies is regularly sterilised and older children always wash their hands before meals, whilst the younger ones have their hands washed by staff.

Children rest, according to their needs and parental wishes, within their base room. All children learn about good nutrition and healthy eating through the well thought out menu and good quality food provided. This includes plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables and meets the needs of all children on special diets. Children have regular breaks for drinks throughout the day and fresh drinking water is always available.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are well cared for in a warm, welcoming, environment in which safety has very high priority. They play in an indoor and outdoor environment that is well designed and suitable for the age of the children. Good use is made of all areas, including the corridors. Throughout the school children's work has pride of place, enabling them to feel valued. The excellent facilities are well thought out and defined, enabling children to make good progress and develop their independence. These include good quality toys and furnishings that meet the needs of the children and help create a stimulating environment.

Children's safety is paramount, with almost all possible safety features in place throughout the building. When taken on outings suitable risk assessments are carried out, together with parental permission obtained. Children's welfare is safeguarded at

all times by clear procedures and documentation, together with staff's sound understanding of child protection.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children thrive in an exciting child-friendly environment tailored to their individual needs. Stimulating and varied activities are in place throughout the day and for the children attending the out of school or holiday club. These are both inside and outside the building and are generally topic based, enabling children to develop their skills in all areas of the curriculum. Good use is made of the 'Birth to three matters' framework when planning activities for the younger children. Although the assessment system for these children is in place, it is not operational. The children have opportunities to explore a wide variety of different things, including wet, coloured pasta, sand and water activities, together with exploring sounds made by different percussion instruments and many opportunities to move in various ways both inside and outside the building. Activities in the holiday and after school club are planned and meet the needs of the children attending. They have a good variety of indoor and outdoor activities, with plenty of opportunities for physical play.

Children's enquiring minds, together with the suitable challenges set by staff, enable them to explore and discover for themselves and make good progress in all areas. Staff plan a balanced programme of activities, which includes times for free choice and self-selection. In their busy day, quieter times are included, enabling them opportunities to sit and relax, share a book or listen to a story. Children's individual needs are effectively met in both the out of school and day-care provision, by a staff who are skilled at developing the children's knowledge and understanding through good quality play based activities.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel a sense of belonging in this multi-cultural setting, and are cared for by a staff team who work closely with the parents to meet their individual needs. This ensures they are fully involved in the life of the setting. They have access to a wide range of resources that reflect different cultures, and enjoy finding out about, and celebrating, festivals from other countries.

Every child is valued and respected as an individual. Staff working with the youngest children follow their individual routines, as discussed with the parents. All children are well supported, especially when learning to communicate. Basic sign language assists their communication skills, when required. Clear behaviour management strategies are in place throughout; ensuring children understand what is expected of them and generally behave well. The close liaison with parents ensures they are fully informed and involved.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The effective organisation of time, space and resources ensure children's individual needs and welfare are given high priority and help them make good progress. Systems are in place to ensure staffing ratios are maintained throughout the day. The comprehensive policies and procedures work effectively in practice, promoting children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. Parent's daily discussions with staff ensure they are kept well informed and fully involved in the care of their child.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there has been one complaint relating to National Standard 2 regarding staffing ratios. This was investigated and resulted in a notice of compliance being served. The provider continues to remain qualified to be registered.

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):

- ensure all entries in the accident book are signed by parents or carers
- ensure development records are maintained for all children under three years.

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:

