



Pips Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY294431
Inspection date	06 June 2006
Inspector	Linda Cook
Setting Address	Applegarth Primary School, Upwell Road, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8QF
Telephone number	01609 773521
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Registered person	Pips Out Of School Club
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?

Pips Out of School Club was registered in 2004. They operate from the premises of Applegarth Primary School in Northallerton. They have the use of the school hall, three class rooms, the school's toilet facilities and outdoor play area.

They are registered to care for a maximum of 16 children under eight years at any one time and admit children from four to 11 years, who attend the school. There are currently 48 children on roll, of whom 22 are under eight years. Sessions are Monday to Friday from 15.15 to 18.00 in term time only. A breakfast club is also provided if there is sufficient demand.

The club is managed by a voluntary committee who employ three members of staff, of which two are qualified.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities which contribute to their good health. Each day is organised to ensure there are regular opportunities for children's physical development, both indoors and outdoors. For example, playing in the school grounds or on the green. Indoors they enjoy skipping and playing team games. Children move around confidently, with control, enjoy exercise and learn the importance of physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Children benefit from a healthy diet and enjoy fresh fruit at snack time. They confidently help themselves to drinks throughout the session. Children's individual dietary needs are taken into account to ensure they remain healthy. Children learn about the benefits of a healthy diet through choosing from healthy options and discussions with staff at their regular baking activity.

Children's health is protected by clear accident and medication records and two staff have current first aid certificates. However, the children's understanding of good hygiene practices is not sufficiently developed as they do not routinely wash their hands before eating, which is detrimental to their good health.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from being cared for in a warm and welcoming environment, which is clean, well-maintained and has good evidence of their play and activity. Space is organised effectively and children can move around freely between the main playroom, computer room and school hall.

Children are kept appropriately safe in the setting. Staff are aware of potential hazards and take positive steps to ensure that children are kept free from harm. They implement appropriate risk assessments and effective procedures are in place to ensure that children are safe when being collected. Children develop a good understanding about safety in the setting through regularly practising emergency evacuations and effective staff explanations to help them understand the reasons behind behaviour boundaries.

Children are well-protected from abuse or neglect. Staff are aware of their responsibilities to the children in their care and have a good knowledge of the signs of abuse and the procedure to follow with any concerns. Staff follow a clear child protection policy and have attended child protection training.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are involved in a good range of enjoyable activities and can be active or rest according to their needs and interests. These include construction, baking, team games, computer games, arts and crafts. They are happy and settled and are keen to communicate with staff, talking about their lives, sharing experiences and involving them in their play. There is a satisfactory range of toys and resources made available to them for self-selection. The range continues to be expanded and in particular needs to increase those which provide positive images and develop children's awareness of cultural diversity, ethnicity and disability.

Children benefit from staff who are very interested in them, giving plenty of praise and encouragement to help them build a positive self-esteem. Children play very well together, they build warm relationships with other children and learn to share and take turns. They are given good opportunities to be independent in the setting, they move around freely accessing toys and play equipment. They confidently express their wishes initiating activities and games.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued as individuals the staff know them well and develop positive relationships. Children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are welcome and staff have a positive attitude to making adjustments to ensure their individual needs can be met. Children learn about the wider world through the planned activities and recently enjoyed an Hawaiian night. They made costumes and decorated the room with garlands and lanterns.

Children develop a good understanding of right from wrong, through clear staff explanations as to the reasons behind behaviour boundaries. They are fully involved in the rule making decisions, which helps them to understand the consequences of their actions. Children behave very well, have good manners and show concern for others. Staff consistently use a broad range of strategies to effectively manage behaviour and children receive plenty of praise and encouragement to promote good behaviour.

The children benefit from the positive relationships developed between the staff and parents. Parents are relaxed and chat to staff at collection time about their child's day. Staff effectively accommodate the varying childcare needs of parents because there are available places each session. Information for parents is displayed. However, as identified in their own development plan, this could be further improved by the provision of a prospectus giving parents basic information about the club and its policies and procedures. Parents who contributed to the inspection process state they are very pleased with the care provided; their children are happy and enjoy the activities provided.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Space indoors is well organised to cater for children's play needs. There are some limitations to this as it is not possible for the children to enjoy free flow to the outdoor play area due to the physical layout of the facility. Children are familiar with the organisation of daily routines and confidently initiate their own play and independently help themselves to snacks and attend to personal care needs.

All requirements for documentation and record keeping are in place to meet the National Standards and these are stored appropriately to maintain confidentiality. Clear policies and procedures are implemented by staff to ensure the children's welfare. Children benefit from the suitably qualified staff and their commitment to ongoing training.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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 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):

- improve hygiene routines, for example, by ensuring children wash their hands before eating

- continue to develop the range of toys and resources available to children, in particular those which increase children's awareness of cultural diversity
- develop the information available for parents, for example, by providing a prospectus.

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