



Barnack School "Home From Home" Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	256738
Inspection date	24 January 2006
Inspector	Lesley Barrett
Setting Address	Barnack C of E School, School Road, Barnack, Stamford, Lincs, PE9 3DZ
Telephone number	01780 740265
E-mail	
Registered person	Barnack School "Home fromHome" 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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Barnack Home from Home School Club operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of Barnack Primary School, in the village of Barnack, near Stamford. The club also have use of the school playground.

A maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. Care is offered after school for children up to 11 years. There are currently 15 children on roll. The club is able to support children with special educational needs.

Currently two members of staff are employed, one of whom has an appropriate

childcare qualification. The club receives support from a childcare adviser from the Peterborough Sure Start Strategic Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health and well-being is protected through staff's knowledge of effective procedures to help prevent the spread of infection. For example, children who are involved in preparing snacks are shown the correct way of ensuring that their hands are appropriately clean. An anti-bacterial liquid is provided for children to use on their hands before they eat and they are reminded of the importance of good hygiene procedures after visiting the toilet. Children's minor first aid requirements are treated calmly and sensitively by staff, helping to comfort and reassure them. Accidents and the use of medication are clearly recorded to ensure that children and staff are fully protected.

Children are provided with a variety of healthy snacks when they arrive from school. They are able to make informed choices about their snack and drink as each day the menu is displayed. They choose from a range of drinks, such as, hot chocolate, apple or orange juice and a selection of fruit. This helps to promote their understanding of healthy eating and their well-being. However, children's individual needs to help themselves to drinks are not met as they are unable to help themselves to drinks as and when required.

Children's needs to release energy after a day at school are recognised, as staff provide them with the opportunity to participate in physical play on a daily basis. They enjoy playing in the school playground, where team games are encouraged helping to develop children's social skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The risks to children are minimised by the effective organisation of the play space available. Areas within the club are used appropriately, quieter activities are arranged inside and more physical activities are encouraged in the outdoor play area, allowing children to play safely and free from harm. Children are learning about the importance of keeping themselves safe, as staff talk to them about the importance of safety when making and carrying the hot chocolate drinks at snack time. The premises are kept secure to prevent children leaving unsupervised or people gaining unauthorised entry. Those children who attend an after school activity within the school, are escorted to the club to ensure that they arrive safely.

Children are able to access resources which are effectively stored and labelled, allowing them to make informed decisions about the types of activities they would like to play with. Staff regularly monitor the safety of equipment to ensure that it is suitable for children to use.

Children's welfare is effectively safeguarded. For instance, the appropriate paperwork has been completed by parents to allow staff to act quickly in the event of a medical emergency. Children are never left in the care of a person who has not been appropriately vetted nor released to another adult unless the staff have been given written consent from parents. Although staff have not attended training in respect of child protection, they have the support of the systems in place within the school and are aware of the correct procedures to be followed should they have any concerns about a child in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

A welcoming environment is provided for children as they arrive at the club. A relaxed, unstructured atmosphere enables them to unwind after a day at school. They arrive confidently, showing that they are settled and familiar with their routine. They place their coats and bags in the allocated place, make their choice of snack and sit chatting with their peers and staff about their day at school, or relax watching television whilst their snack is prepared.

Children enjoy outdoor play. Staff are aware of the need to provide a balance of child initiated and adult led games to ensure that all children's preferences are met. Activities are available to stimulate and interest older children, such as, power hockey, pool and a playstation. Different craft activities are offered on a daily basis, children are able to make their own or participate in the adult planned art work, such as, junk modelling. Art work is attractively displayed, helping to encourage children's sense of belonging and self worth. Staff are sensitive towards children's individual needs they interact well with the children and show interest in their play, as they join in games and discuss their day at school.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are welcomed into the group by staff who are friendly and sensitive towards children's individual needs. All activities are made available to each child attending helping them to feel included. However, resources and displays which promote positive images are limited, consequently, opportunities to increase children's knowledge of the wider world are not effectively promoted.

Children behave well, as staff are calm and explain why they are asking a child not to do something. They redirect children's attentions into appropriate activities, to prevent their behaviour becoming unacceptable. This helps to reduce negative messages and allows children to learn about acceptable boundaries. Staff make effective use of praise and encouragement, a reward system is in place to promote good behaviour, helping to promote children's self-esteem.

Relationships with parents are friendly. They speak positively about recent changes within the group and comment upon how their children enjoy attending. Staff share

information verbally on a daily basis, to ensure that parents are kept informed about their child's day. They are provided with a parents pack when they enrol their child. This ensures that they are aware of the club rules, current policies and procedures and the care provided for their children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Overall, the range of children's needs are met. Effective organisation of the space available enables children to have a balance of activities inside and outside. Continuity of care is provided for children, as the same two members of staff are employed each session and the minimum adult:child ratios are adhered to. However, the deployment of staff does not always ensure that children have sufficient support. For example, during outdoor play, one member of staff returned inside to attend to a child's first aid requirements, leaving the remaining member of staff to supervise the children. Consequently, during this time there is insufficient adult support to fully safeguard children's well-being.

The documentation has been reviewed and supports the successful operation of the setting. The play leader has a clear understanding of the importance of the required documentation, policies and procedures to ensure that the care of the children is promoted.

Improvements since the last inspection

Following the last inspection, the club was asked to improve safety with regard to children being escorted to and from school and to provide a safe alternative for ventilation. These have both been addressed and have a positive impact on keeping children safe.

They were also asked to plan and provide a stimulating range of activities to suit children of all ages. This has been addressed and has a positive impact on children enjoying and achieving.

They were also required to review policies/procedures and to ensure that all records were available on the premises. These have been addressed and have a positive impact on the organisation of the club and the well-being of children.

Complaints since the last inspection

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. There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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):

- ensure that fresh drinking water is made available to children at all times
- review systems in place to promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice
- review the systems in place for deployment of staff to ensure that children's well-being is protected at all times.

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