



Pixies Kidz Clubz (pickhurst)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY308058
Inspection date	28 February 2006
Inspector	Kay Bateson
Setting Address	Pickhurst Junior & Infant School, Pickhurst Lane, West Wickham, Kent, BR4 0HL
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Registered person	Fiona Akano
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Pixies Kidz Clubz (Pickhurst) was registered in 2005. The group operates from the Infant's premises of Pickhurst Primary School, West Wickham. The group has the use of the dining area and the sports hall. There are toilet and wash hand facilities located near to these areas, and outdoor play space is easily accessible, providing outdoor play opportunities for the children.

Pixies Kidz Clubz (Pickhurst) is privately owned and is one of several similar groups situated within the London Borough of Bromley. All of the children who attend this group are pupils of Pickhurst Infant and Junior School. A maximum of 32 children from ages from 5 to 8 years are able to attend on a full or part time basis. The group opens 5 days a week during the school term. The breakfast club operates from 07.55 until 08.55 and the after school club is open from 15.15 until 17.45.

The group has 35 children under 8 years currently on roll, who attend a range of sessions. There are a number of children over 8 years attending. The group supports children with special needs.

There are 4 members of staff working directly with the children. There are 2 members of staff that are employed on a part-time basis. There are additional staff employed to cover staff absence. Two thirds of the staff hold level 3 qualifications in child care and play work, the remainder have level 2 and are currently working towards level 3.

The staff provide a wide range of play and leisure activities with the emphasis on fun, learning and enjoyment. Children are also able to complete any homework with support and guidance from the staff as required.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children play in a clean setting where staff pay sound attention to the promotion of hygiene practices. Children are developing a good understanding of how to keep themselves healthy, free from infection, and learn about important food hygiene rules whilst at the group. Staff are heard gently reminding them to wash hands, to use tissues and simply explaining to young children why they have keep covers over the food between servings.

Children are learning about the importance of eating healthy options. Staff encourage and introduces them to new tastes by providing a good balance of nutritional food at breakfast time and for their afternoon snack. They plan a selection of food paying sound attention to the individual dietary needs of the children. They use fresh, high fibre, no sugar based options which are mostly organic in origin. Children enjoy eating breakfast and know that it helps them perform better during the school day.

Children benefit from the opportunities provided by the staff to develop and master their physical skills. They enjoy playing group games in the hall, join in using a dance mat and on warmer afternoons benefit from the use of the outside area. Children have opportunities to master cutting and building skills as they staff provide the necessary tools and equipment. This is apparent watching children use decorative scissors, hole punches, and build using construction sets.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a room that is bright, warm and welcoming. It has adequate space for the number of children on roll. Children are able to move freely around the room safely, have space to play at table with games and activities, as well as use additional hall facilities for large group games. They benefit from the use of the outside area during warmer evenings. They play with a sufficient amount of toys and equipment that interest, challenge and suit their age ranges. Staff are presently developing an adjoining room for a quiet area and looking at increasing play resources for children.

Children's safety is important to the staff as they follow sound procedures to maintain their safety. They closely supervise the children whilst playing, pay immediate attention to reducing

risks and conduct a firm registration and departure procedure. They have secure systems in place to record accidents or incidents and staff on duty hold current first aid certificates. Staff are vigilant when children enter and exit the room, as the entrance to the group is a fire exit that cannot be locked. They have already identified this potential risk and are presently working on the improvement of the security of the setting.

Children have a sound understanding of how to keep themselves safe while at the group. They know to not leave the room unless with a member of staff, know not to walk around with scissors and not to run in the room. Staff reinforce important safety rules by quietly reminding children when required. Children have some awareness about what to do when they hear the fire alarm. Staff have yet to regularly practice the evacuation procedure with children attending the group and to keep a record of them. This will enhance the children's awareness of fire safety procedures and increase their overall safety at all times.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the group. They enter happily, settle quickly into the routine and play well together. During activity time children become interested and involved in their chosen task. They are able to choose from a selection of toys and equipment available. Children are encouraged to participate in the overall planning of the group as staff ask the children what they would like to see on offer during a session. This enables staff to plan a range of activities that will suit the range of ages, interests and individual needs. Children are able to explore their ideas and plans as staff provide the materials and allow the outcomes to come from them. This is clear when watching children use the craft materials to make a variety of different things. Also, when children use drawing materials to create pictures of characters they are currently interested in.

Staff members become involved and interact fully with the children's play. This ensures a secure understanding of the individual child, their interests and needs. They are interested in what they do and have interesting conversations with them. This is apparent watching staff play group games, join in with the dance mat and talk about events happening in the school. Staff ensure there is a good balance of opportunities on offer to support their learning in a fun way. Children have the opportunity to complete homework during the session time and staff are available to support them if they need it. This ensures that staff maintain the good links with the children's school and parents.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel welcomed, valued and secure due to the staff being friendly and caring as they arrive at the setting in the morning and as they collect them later in the afternoon. They listen and pay good attention to the children when talking to them and are sensitive to their individual needs. Children work well together, share and take turns readily. They are polite and use appropriate ways when talking and asking for things. This is apparent during the serving of food, when playing with each other and asking adults to help them.

Children's good behaviour is encouraged, by staff giving them plenty of praise and encouragement. Staff have firm procedures to follow if challenged with inappropriate behaviour. They deal with any issue calmly, quietly and with discussion. Children's confidence has increased as a direct result of the action of the staff at the group. They work with the school staff and the parents to help any child overcome anxieties of coming to school. This is achieved by boosting their self esteem through being sensitive, understanding and using an agreed reward system. Therefore, staff give good support to the children's individual special needs as they work with the school and parent to ensure the continuity of care.

Children learn about diversity through playing together, being with the staff, sharing in the celebration of festivals and events through the year. They learn about the wider community through looking at the available books and playing with resources that the group provides.

Parents are very happy with the standard of care their child is receiving. They are pleased their children enjoy coming and find the staff very approachable, understanding and supportive. The staff have established firm working relationships with the current parents. They are fully informed about the group at the initial meeting, as they are given a copy the parent handbook. They receive regular newsletters, as well as staff informing them daily about their child's day. Staff have a clear system in place to record complaints and to inform parents about how they can solve issues arising with them. This ensures the child is cared for in accordance to the parent's wishes and their safety is secure.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are well supported and cared for by a sufficient number of well qualified and trained staff. They are happy, supportive and work well together. This ensures children make firm relationships with staff, feel safe and emotionally secure while attending the group. Children benefit from the well organised room, with additional facilities to use for physical play in the hall or outside area. They have a balance of quiet and active times, with sufficient amount of toys and equipment to engage them in concentrated activity. Staff interrupt the children's flow and concentration when they formally call the register during the session. This interruption causes the good behaviour to slightly deteriorate and some children become unsettled for a while. Staff agreed to review their current practice of performing administrative tasks with less disruption to the children's play.

Children keep safe and are well cared for by the staff as they follow the sound and secure systems in place. They have all the required documentation, agreements and details necessary for the overall maintenance of the care of children. Staff are aware that making slight adjustments to their current system of the storage of children's details will reduce the risk of losing information stored on separate sheets. This will improve the staff being able to access the children's details in the event of an emergency situation.

Children and parents soon get to know the staff after joining the group. There is currently no clear information that informs parents or visitors about the individual staff members that will be working directly with the children. Staff agreed to review how they can inform parents and

children about themselves, their qualifications and responsibilities. This will provide a clearer understanding by parents about the standard of care provided at this group.

Overall, the setting meets the needs of the range of children whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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

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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 the out of school group undertake regular fire evacuation procedures and maintain a written record of all fire drills.

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