



Old Trafford Community School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY302746
Inspection date	10 July 2006
Inspector	Sarah Taylor
Setting Address	Malvern Street, Old Trafford, Manchester, M16 9AD
Telephone number	0161 912 4875
E-mail	
Registered person	Trafford Borough Council
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?

Old Trafford Community School operates from a primary school premises in Old Trafford, Manchester. The early years centre and wrap around care provision opened in 2005 and operates from four ground floor rooms. A maximum of 92 children may attend the full day care or out of school care at any one time. There are currently 30 children on roll. The day care facility is open from 08.00 to 18.00, for 50 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

Children come mainly from the local area and the provision is for children and families attending the school. The setting supports children with learning difficulties

and disabilities and who speak English as an additional language.

The setting employs appropriately qualified and experienced staff. The setting receives support from the Trafford Sure Start Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Staff pay particular attention to the dietary needs of the children attending the group. Parents are asked to state preferences, whether religious, cultural or health related, and the staff ensure that the meals provided conform to the parents requests. For example, children can eat halal food, vegetarian or other alternatives to ensure their good health. Children enjoy eating a variety of fruit every day and like to serve each other. They have a choice of water or milk at snack times. Children cannot easily access water throughout the play sessions and this has a negative effect on their hydration levels. While they eat, the staff chat to the children about what they are enjoying and children repeat, 'nice crunchy apple'. They talk about their weekend and what they enjoy doing. Children enjoy meal times as they are social occasions.

There is a good range of policies and procedures in place to ensure the good health of the children attending the nursery. Staff follow secure routines, which ensure that children are protected from cross infection. For example, there is a thorough nappy changing procedure, which includes the use of gloves and aprons and ensures that children are protected from contamination. The nursery is clean and tidy and staff are employed to maintain the areas to a high standard of cleanliness, using colour coded cloths and mops to prevent the spread of contamination. Children's health is well protected as staff hold food hygiene and first aid certificates. Toys are sterilised or cleaned in the dishwasher regularly and this further protects children from infection.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children's safety is well maintained as they use lovely, purpose built facilities. The premises are well maintained and issues are identified and rectified by the site manager or by external help. Children have the benefit of a well lit and well ventilated nursery with a fresh flow of air through the rooms. There is a good outdoor area with a covered space for protection from the sun.

Toys and equipment are mostly new and are appropriate to children of different ages and stages of development. For example, there are a range of different sized wooden and plastic tables and chairs, which cater for children of different sizes. A large variety of toys and activities, inside and outside, are all stored at the children's level to make them easily accessible. This ensures that children always have something exciting to do.

Children's immediate safety is of paramount importance to the group and there is an

impressive entry system including buzzers, intercoms and closed circuit television. Each member of staff holds an electronic key to open interior doors and this ensures that visitors to the setting cannot move around the building without being accompanied. These steps are effective in ensuring that children are protected. Thorough risk assessments help the group to identify dangers and to rectify them. There are termly fire evacuations to ensure that children and staff are familiar with the procedures. The site manager keeps a record of the evacuations and notes any areas for improvement.

Staff have received training in the Local Safeguarding Children Board's procedures. This ensures that they can effectively maintain the welfare of each child and identify any child protection concerns, which may need passing to relevant agencies. Being located within a children's centre, the setting has close links to social services and staff are confident in their responsibility to the child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The setting uses the Birth to three matters framework effectively to plan for the next steps in children's development. There is a clear system of assessment and evaluation, which leads successfully to the next lot of planning. Each child has their achievements and next steps recorded in their development record. Methods of planning and assessment are regularly reviewed with staff from the school, located at the children's centre, to ensure consistency. These steps ensure that children are being appropriately supported and challenged in their development.

Children enjoy focussed activities, such as making a sheep, and the staff member ensures that children are extending their skills and vocabulary during the activity. For example, the children say the colour of the sheep and how the sheep feels.

There are lots of opportunities for children to share stories and to learn nursery rhymes and songs. The children thoroughly enjoy the story about the farmer and join in with the animal sounds. They sing 'Old McDonald' and 'Baa baa black sheep' enthusiastically and remember the words and actions to songs very well.

There is a large range of activities for the children to access freely during the play sessions. For example, there is a range of musical instruments including a small steel drum, a role play home, an indoor climbing frame, an easel and a range of paints for free painting, jigsaws and construction toys. The children confidently express what they would like to do and staff skilfully assess whether the activity requires support or not.

Outside, the children have the opportunity to play croquet or cricket with the staff. They can run, throw and kick balls, wheel pushchairs or pedal wheeled vehicles. There is an outdoor sand box and the children watch with interest as water is poured onto the dry sand and disappears.

Children feel valued and staff take the time to get down onto their level and talk to them about what they are doing. There are very positive exchanges between the staff

and the children and there is lots of laughter throughout the nursery, which leads to a happy and positive atmosphere.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The setting shows a strong commitment to ensuring that the children experience the wider world and that the people attending the centre are representative of the local community. Staff members speak a variety of languages and this ensures that children and parents feel included. There is a range of equipment to promote an understanding of the wider world and children are involved in the celebration of festivals. The setting provides a prayer room for people using the centre to use.

Children with learning difficulties and disabilities are well cared for. There is constant access to other agencies within the setting, such as the health visitor and speech and language therapist. If the staff identify a need, they are able to access this help and can also refer parents to support from the centre.

The children benefit from an environment where positive praise and encouragement are given throughout the session. Any behaviour issues are dealt with sensitively and methods used are appropriate to the age and stage of the child. For example, children are told firmly to stop and why, and if they don't, they have a period of time out. Children with behavioural difficulties are monitored and quickly distracted.

Parents are encouraged to be a part of the centre and the nursery. They are given information about the centre and can access information through members of staff. The children benefit from continuity of care as the key workers speak to the parents on a daily basis. There are opportunities throughout the year for parents to attend parents' evenings to discuss their child's development records.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff are experienced and most hold relevant childcare qualifications. This has a beneficial effect on children's welfare, care and learning. Children clearly benefit from the staffing levels of the nursery, which are over the required ratios.

Space is well organised to provide children with a good range of experiences and children move around their immediate environment with ease and confidence. Time and resources are very well organised to promote children's safety and care.

The managers provide positive direction and staff work well together to promote children's development. There is a good system of staff appraisal in place and any suitability issues or training needs are identified.

All required documentation is in place with a comprehensive folder of policies available for staff and parents. Confidentiality is maintained in all documentation and records are stored securely in locked cabinets with important contact details easily

accessible.

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 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 that fresh drinking water is easily accessible to children 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