



COSH

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	500058
Inspection date	12 April 2006
Inspector	Anne Drinkwater
Setting Address	Chorlton Park Primary School, Barlow Moor Rd, Chorlton, Manchester, M21 2HH
Telephone number	0161 881 0100
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Registered person	COSH Management Committee
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?

COSH Out of School Care has been registered since 1992. It operates from rooms within Chorlton Park Primary School in the Chorlton area of Manchester.

Children have access to a large room, junior and infant halls and a safe outdoor area. The club offers childcare before and after school, and holiday care provision for children attending Chorlton Park Primary School and from the local community.

The before and after school sessions operate from 08:00 to 09:00 and from 15:20 to 18:00 Monday to Friday during term time. The holiday play scheme operates from

08:30 to 17:30 Monday to Friday during school holidays. There are currently 40 children on roll.

There are five staff who work with the children, one of whom is qualified to NVQ level three, and also holds a qualification in sports studies. The setting receives support from the Early Years Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children follow simple hygiene practices as they wash their hands after using the bathroom and before eating lunch. Satisfactory procedures are in place to reduce the spread of infection. Staff record accidents and are trained in first aid, which ensures they are able to respond quickly and effectively to accidents or incidents. Children benefit from fresh air and exercise through activities in the school grounds where they use large equipment to help develop their strength and coordination.

Children in the holiday club provide their own packed lunches. Staff provides additional drinks for children who require them; there is also a water fountain to keep them refreshed.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in premises that are maintained to a satisfactory standard. Children have access to the school hall and classroom, where they participate in a range of different activities. Staff carry out daily checks of the premises before children arrive to ensure children's safety, however, the provision does not have its own fire evacuation procedures and fire drills are not carried out regularly to ensure children's safety. Children learn to keep themselves safe due to their knowledge of behavioural expectations within the setting and through discussions with staff.

The children are warmly welcomed by staff and are keen to join in activities on offer. The organisation of space allows children to move about and play safely. There is a satisfactory range of toys and equipment for children to choose from, which are safe and suitable. Children change activities throughout the session to meet their needs.

Children are well protected because staff have a sound knowledge of child protection issues. There are clear procedures in place in the event of any concerns and staff have the relevant contact details for other agencies.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and enthusiastic about attending the holiday care scheme. They

enjoy the full range of activities provided for them and they have particular favourites, such as computer games, cooperative play, and arts and crafts. Activities for children are organised on a day to day basis so children make some choices and decisions about the games and resources they use. They have full access to the range of creative materials and use these well to express their ideas. Children enjoy having their faces painted, creative activities and are praised for cooperatively completing a difficult floor puzzle.

Younger children cope well in the busy environment as their needs are met and they receive appropriate support and consideration. They particularly enjoy playing in the home corner, making food and dressing up. Older children show care and consideration towards the younger children as they support them with activities. Good relationships are formed within the club. Staff spend time playing and talking to children, which helps them settle and enjoy their time at the club. Children clearly have fun and enjoy the play experiences provided. They talk about the staff being nice and kind to them, the good toys and activities, and making new friends.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are warmly welcomed and valued as individuals. They have equal access to all activities and experiences. They develop a sense of belonging. Staff make time to speak to all the children. Staff encourage the children to be responsible and independent, as they are involved in organising play activities. They freely choose which activity they would like to play with and help to tidy up. The setting has a satisfactory range of play materials, which help children develop an understanding about the wider world.

The provision welcomes children with special needs, however, the staff do not have the appropriate training, support or policies to ensure all the needs of a child could be met.

Children are generally well behaved. They take turns when playing games and share resources well. Staff use appropriate techniques to manage children's behaviour, for example, gentle reminders about playing safely. Children are involved in setting the ground rules and so are clear about what is expected.

Parents are given basic information regarding the setting and programme of activities, however, they do not have access to the setting's policies and procedures. This limits their involvement in the care of their children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are well supported by a qualified manager and experienced staff who provide a wide range of interesting activities, however, a qualified deputy is not available. Children have a strong sense of belonging and enjoy their time at the

setting.

Staff have a secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities, which is supported by effective induction systems and regular meetings. Staff have good opportunities to extend their knowledge and skills through attending some training courses. This means they are able to enhance the children's safety, well-being and enjoyment at the setting. All legally required documentation, which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place, however, registers of attendance of staff and children are not complete.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection an action was raised to ensure that the child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee are complied with, that all adults working with and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into place and to ensure that the name and address of the Ofsted are included in the complaints procedures.

To contribute to children's welfare and safety staff have received training to ensure child protection procedures are complied with and the complaints procedure now includes Ofsted's details, however, the procedure has not been brought up to date to comply with the amendments to record complaints made.

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.

Ofsted received concerns regarding National Standard 1 Suitable Person and National Standard 2 Organisation. An Ofsted Early Years childcare inspector conducted an unannounced visit to the provision on 16 March 2006. Actions were made and have been completed. Ofsted are satisfied that the provider remains qualified for registration.

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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 a fire evacuation plan is available and regular fire drills are actioned
- ensure a written special needs statement, which is consistent with current legislation, is available to staff and parents and staff have the appropriate training to promote children's welfare and development
- ensure parents have information regarding the holiday club's operational procedures and policies
- ensure a complaints policy and procedure is available for staff and parents and a suitable record of complaints is maintained
- provide an action plan detailing how the deputy will acquire a level three qualification
- ensure staff and children's times of arrival and departure are recorded.

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