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Luddendenfoot Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Better education and care

Unique Reference Number	504093
Inspection date	19 June 2006
Inspector	Shaheen Matloob
Setting Address	Luddendenfoot J & I School, Burnley Road, Halifax, HX2 6AU
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Registered person	Luddendenfoot 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Luddendenfoot Out of School Club operates from Luddenenfoot Junior and Infant School in the village of Luddenden, Halifax. It has been registered since October 2000 and is managed by a voluntary management committee. All children from the club attend Luddendenfoot Junior and Infant School. The club has use of the school playground.

The club is open term time only from 07.30 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 18:00. Currently, there are 44 children on the register and attendance is on a sessional basis.

There are five staff including the co-ordinator who is the person in charge. The majority of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, and other staff are working towards gaining an appropriate qualification. The provision has support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean and well-maintained environment. They learn the importance of good personal hygiene through established routines to prevent the spread of infection. Children know that they need to wash their hands before snack time and after using the toilet. They have a good understanding of health and know that hand washing helps to prevent germs and stops their food from getting dirty. Staff maintain the cleanliness of the premises and equipment through daily checks and an established cleaning routine for the premises. Accident records fully meet requirements, and the majority of staff hold valid first aid certificates in order to protect children.

Children have good opportunities to promote physical development and learn about healthy living. They make good use of the school playground and use a wide range of outdoor equipment, such as skipping ropes, balls and hula hoops to promote co-ordination and physical skills. Children have access to a designated quiet room where they can rest and relax according to their needs.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. They constantly increase their understanding of the importance of a healthy diet as they access a varied range of appetising healthy snacks. Children have access to fresh drinking water throughout the session and know that "it is brain food and that you need eight glasses of water a day to keep you hydrated". Staff have a clear understanding of children's dietary needs, and meet these to promote children's healthy growth and development.

Children have a good understanding of what constitutes as healthy eating. For example, they know that fruit and vegetables are good for them, that carrots contain essential nutrients and vitamin c, and that water is better for them than fizzy drinks. Children have good opportunities to have 'fun with food', as they use fruit and vegetables to make objects and animals to make food more enticing, attractive and appetising. Planned activities develop children's understanding of healthy eating and promote a five a day message. Attractive displays of posters made by children that demonstrate 'High Five' how eating five portions of fresh fruit and vegetables a day are essential to remain healthy.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Staff ensure that the safety of children is paramount at all times in order to provide a safe environment which is free from hazards. Vigilant staff take positive steps, using

thorough risk assessments to reduce risks so that children can move around safely and independently. Good deployment of staff contributes towards children's safety indoors and outdoors. Younger children are escorted from their classroom to ensure their safety. Children learn to keep themselves safe and avoid accidental injury as staff consistently point out potential hazards. Children have an excellent understanding of safety and know that they must obey the club rules, and that they must not run indoors otherwise they might hurt themselves or others.

Children independently select from a broad range of good quality toys and equipment, which meets safety standards. Fire safety is effective. Children have a detailed knowledge of what to do in a fire evacuation. They know that they must walk calmly to the evacuation point. They know that they must not return for anything "because their lives are more valuable than any belongings". Children are well protected because staff are knowledgeable and have a secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities in the protection and safeguarding of children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children experience a rich environment where their art work is valued. Staff provide children with the resources needed. Children explore art materials; they differentiate between colours and explore what happens when they mix colours. They know that certain colours make another colour, such as white and red make pink. Children select particular colours for a purpose as they explain what they are painting. Children develop cooperative relationships as they play a game of 'pool'. They have a good understanding of how to play the game safely. For example, they know that they must use the cue properly and not chip the ball. Children have good negotiation skills as they decide amongst themselves who is going to play first. Other children wait patiently and keep scores until it is their turn.

Children are motivated and interested in a broad range of purposeful and developmentally appropriate activities which provide good levels of challenge. Children use their skills to mix icing sugar to decorate biscuits to eat at snack time. Children choose a range of colourful decorations and arrange them attractively on top of icing. Children have a good understanding of technology and use programmable toys to support their learning. Children are engaged and show good motivation whilst playing a computer game. They develop hand-eye co-ordination and know how to operate equipment, such as a joy pad in order to control characters in the game with skill.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff promote positive attitudes and encourage children to respect each other and ensure that all children are treated equally and their individuality is respected. Children have a good sense of belonging as their art work is displayed attractively and a children's questionnaire allows them to participate in the life of the setting. A meaningful range of resources promote a positive view of the wider world. Children benefit from a range of planned activities to increase their knowledge of diversity and understanding of others. They promote festivals and special events and use books effectively to increase their knowledge of others. Children sample foods and use utensils from other cultures from their own. For example, children attempt to eat noodles using chopsticks. Proactive staff work well in partnership with parents and the school to meet the individual and medical needs of children.

Children respond to expectations for their behaviour. Staff assist children to develop self discipline and self-esteem in an environment which creates mutual respect and encouragement. Staff handling of children's behaviour is appropriate and respects their age, understanding and level of maturity in order to promote their welfare and development. In return, children are consistently well-behaved and polite. Children gain self-esteem, as they are rewarded for good behaviour through the use of a merit board.

Partnerships with parents are positive. All parents are welcomed into the setting and benefit from a supportive relationship with staff. Regular parent questionnaires ensures that parents contributions about the setting and practice and welcomed and valued. Daily verbal communication keeps parents up to date with their child's activities and general well-being, to promote continuity of care. The setting has a complaints procedure; however, this needs amending to include details of Ofsted.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff have a sound knowledge and understanding of child development and have a high regard for the well-being of all children. Motivated and enthusiastic staff are committed to attending further training in order to update their knowledge and enhance the good quality service.

Space, time and staff development enable children to move around safely, independently and give them the confidence to initiate their own play and learning experiences. Required adult-child ratios are met and provide good levels of care and support.

Legally required documentation is available and mostly works well in practice. Attendance records are available, showing hours of attendance for children. However, they do not include staff hours of attendance. Additional policies and procedures are clear, organised and protect children, promote their welfare and support children to develop their full potential. Record keeping systems are used well to manage and meet children's needs.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the provider was asked to improve children's safety,

documentation relating to child protection and activities and play opportunities. The club had made good progress and has fully addressed all previous actions and recommendations. Effective monitoring procedures are implemented so that children are safe whilst going to the toilet, a clear child protection policy is available and understood by all staff in order to safeguard children's welfare and a wide range of purposeful and developmentally appropriate activities; play opportunities are independently accessed by children to promote their learning and develop their potential.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since April 2004 there has been one complaint relating to National Standard 2: Organisation about numbers of children. The provider addressed any outstanding issues and Ofsted took no further action. The provider remains qualified for registration.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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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 complaints procedures contains the name and address of Ofsted
- ensure that there are systems in place to record staff attendance.

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*