



Fisherfield Farm at Caldershaw Primary

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY314784
Inspection date	04 April 2006
Inspector	Kay Margaret Armstrong
Setting Address	Caldershaw Primary School, Edenfield Road, Rochdale, Lancashire, OL12 7QL
Telephone number	TBA
E-mail	
Registered person	Fisherfield Farm Nursery Ltd
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?

Fisherfield Farm out of school scheme has been registered since November 2005. It operates from Caldershaw Primary School, in the Rochdale area of Lancashire. The club operates in the main hall, a self contained dining area and a music room. In addition the children have access to the school playground and a smaller enclosed outdoor area. It serves children who attend the school.

The facility offers before and after school care and is registered for 70 children. It is open from 07.45 to 08.45 and 15.30 to 18.00, Monday to Friday, term time only. Currently there are 29 children on role who attend for a variety of sessions.

There are two staff who care for the children, both hold an early years qualification. The group gains support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Staff implement hygiene practices to maintain good standards. For example, they wipe tables with anti-bacterial spray, ensure the food preparation area is kept clean and food is stored appropriately. Children are aware of the importance of good personal hygiene procedures, which helps to prevent the risk of infection and keep them healthy.

The children have the opportunity to use the school playground for outdoor activities. They are also able to be active, run around and play physical games in the school hall. The children describe enjoying, playing games, such as 'piggy in the middle' and using hoops and throwing bean bags. They know these activities help to promote their physical well-being, keeping them fit and well, whilst they develop physical strength and have fun.

Children's health and well-being is fostered as the staff provide healthy nutritious snacks. Children are able to choose from a range of fresh fruit and vegetables, such as bananas, apples, pears, carrot batons, cucumber and peppers. They make their own sandwiches and have their snacks when they choose. Children are able to keep themselves hydrated, as drinks are easily accessible. Their dietary needs are discussed with parents, recorded and respected at all times. Staff take into account children's individual and cultural requirements when providing snacks.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a secure and homely environment. Effective risk assessments are undertaken and all potential hazards are identified and minimised. This means that children are able to play safely and independently. The staff are vigilant and offer appropriate supervision as children play. Emergency evacuation procedures are practiced regularly, ensuring that children know and understand what to do in the event of a fire. Children are beginning to learn how to keep themselves safe as staff gently remind them to be careful whilst they play.

There is a broad range of resources available to meet the needs of the children. Toys are clean, well maintained and comply with safety standards, which minimises the risk to children. Resources are organised and easily accessible to the children, which enhances their learning and promotes choice and independence.

Children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted as the staff have a good understanding of the issues with regard to child protection. Child protection procedures are in line with local authority guidelines. These are shared with parents

so that they are aware of staff's responsibilities.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

A stimulating environment and happy atmosphere, ensures that children have positive experiences and enjoy their leisure time at the group. The staff have established warm, caring, relationships with the children and they spend time playing and talking to them. Staff listen attentively to what children are saying and respond positively to their questions. As a result, the children are relaxed, happy and secure.

Children are busy and occupied throughout the session. The staff allow children the space and freedom to make choices. Children initiate the play as they independently help themselves to games and resources. They really enjoy the activities and play together harmoniously. The children express themselves with creative materials and show pride in their work and achievements. They enjoy playing frustration and Easter bingo with staff and have the opportunity to sit quietly reading books or playing cards. Staff plan and provide a broad range of activities for the children, which are appropriate to their ages and interest. As a result, the children are independent, make confident choices in their play, are making friends and developing skills in negotiations as they play and enjoy themselves. However, children have few opportunities to play imaginatively.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff create an environment so that all children feel valued and are beginning to learn to respect others. As a result, children are accepting of difference and relate well to one another. They make their own decisions about whether they want to take part in an activity and confidently inform staff about their needs. Staff divide their attention well and treat the children with equal concern. This establishes a sense of security and trusting relationships are formed. The range of resources, which reflect diversity, celebrations of different festivals, and activities, such as aboriginal painting, promote children's understanding of the world around them.

Children are well behaved as they know and understand the expectations of staff. Children are learning to act responsibly, for example, they tidy away the games they have been playing with without direction from the staff. Staff's use of praise and positive reinforcement promotes and supports good behaviour. Children's efforts and achievement are recognised and celebrated, which fosters their self-confidence. As a consequence, children are happy, proud of their success and confident.

Parents are made to feel welcome and staff establish friendly relationships. This helps the children to feel reassured and settled.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a supportive environment. This promotes their learning and ensures that they enjoy their time at the setting. The surroundings allow them to move freely and to make choices and decisions. As a consequence, children confidently initiate their own play and show good levels of independence.

Records and documentation is of a high standard. Comprehensive policies and procedures are in place and shared with parents, which promotes children's welfare by contributing to the continuity of their care. However, children's welfare is compromised as the staff induction procedure has not been fully implemented. Staff are able to access in-house training and children benefit from the staff's commitment to their professional development. The staff work well together as a team, ensuring the children have access to a suitable range of play materials and their leisure time is enjoyable. As a result, children are relaxed, happy, occupied and are given choices in the activities they engage in.

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

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):

- provide opportunities for children to engage in imaginative and role play

- ensure staff induction procedures are fully implemented.

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