

# Little Angels Fun Club and Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number**

301921

**Inspection date**

11/03/2011

**Inspector**

Anthea Errington

**Setting address**

Little Angels Nursery, 1-4 Paradise Row, Cramlington,  
Northumberland, NE23 6QF

**Telephone number**

01670 737274

**Email**

**Type of setting**

Childcare on non-domestic premises

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## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

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## **Description of the setting**

Little Angels Fun Club and Nursery is one of four provisions run by Little Angels Fun Club and Nursery Limited. It opened in 1999 and operates from a two storey building close to Cramlington town centre. A maximum of 111 children may attend the nursery at any one time. There are currently 150 children on roll. The nursery is open each weekday from 7.45am to 5.45pm for 51 weeks of the year. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery currently supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities and also supports children who speak English as an additional language. It is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register, and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The nursery employs 33 members of staff who work directly with children. Of these, two are qualified nursery teachers, three hold a level 6 qualification, 23 hold a level 3 qualification and three hold a level 2 qualification. Some staff are working towards higher qualifications and two are working towards a level 2 qualification.

## **The overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding.

The excellent systems for ongoing self-evaluation ensures the setting continually improves the quality of the provision it offers and its inclusive nature, ensuring all staff share a joint vision for the nursery. Staff members display an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and superior systems for observation and assessment means that key workers know their children very well; thus, ensuring children receive a personalised learning experience. This, combined with inspiring leadership and excellent, purposeful links with parents and other professionals, ensures that children's overall needs are exceedingly well met.

## **What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?**

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- ensure all parents are fully aware of Ofsted's contact details.

## **The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision**

The nursery has a clear and straightforward written policy outlining the steps they would take should they have concerns regarding children in their care. An extensive and detailed range of policies and procedures, understood and consistently implemented by staff, are used to inform practice and safeguard the welfare of the children who attend. This, combined with effective recording systems for medication, administration, accidents and allergies, which are all meticulously kept, monitored and efficiently stored, further ensures children are

extremely well protected. Thorough risk assessments are in place for all aspects of care which reduces the risk to children. In addition, children are taught highly effective systems to keep themselves safe and regularly risk assess their own safety when participating in the many activities available. For example, young children explain how they must always be careful whilst using the stairs and older children fully explain the safe procedures to follow whilst helping staff to cook on the outdoor fire pit.

Documentation is very well organised, readily available for inspection and stored securely to protect confidentiality. All essential records and well written policies are in place which parents receive copies of. Those in charge have exceptionally high aspirations for the quality of the nursery's provision and this is evident throughout the setting and all practice. Self-evaluation is comprehensive, thorough and evaluative and takes into account the views of all users, providing an accurate assessment of their strengths and areas for improvement. The nursery is extremely well supported by a very competent staff team. Dedicated to ongoing professional development, a number of staff have recently completed high level qualifications and the staff team continue to work towards further recognised training, ensuring the continued provision of a highly skilled team. Well resourced play areas combined with fantastic outdoor play spaces helps support children's learning and imaginative play.

The nursery actively promotes positive attitudes towards diversity through a range of purposeful activities that encourage children to talk about similarities and differences. These in turn help children learn to value aspects of their own and other peoples' lives. All staff are highly motivated and ensure first class relationships with parents are maintained. The support and opinions of parents are highly valued by the nursery and as a result they have formed outstanding partnerships with them. There are excellent systems in place to secure feedback from parents including regular questionnaires, suggestion boxes and parents evenings. Many parents have used the nursery over a number of years, and are extremely supportive of the very high standard of care provided and are generally clear of policies including contact details. Informative daily discussions as well as detailed diaries are completed to ensure parents are fully informed of their children's progress. In addition, this is complemented with superb written observations and assessments of children to show progression of learning towards the early learning goals. The setting has formed extremely close working relationships with local schools and other professionals in the area, ensuring the efficient exchange of relevant information about individual children.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children**

Children are provided with a wealth of exciting opportunities and resources to enable them to make very good progress across all areas of learning. Staff demonstrate a thorough understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and child development. This, combined with the use of a highly effective key worker system, detailed observation and assessments, and individual learning goals for each child, ensures they are making excellent progress in all areas. Key workers

spend time recording children's interests and these are incorporated into planning ensuring the provision of a truly personalised learning journey. Staff are well deployed and highly involved with the children at all times.

Children are happy to make their own choices and can independently select from the very good range of resources available to them. These are well maintained, clearly labelled using pictures and words, in both English and additional languages, and accessible for all children. Outdoor play is a central feature of the nursery day and children of all ages love to explore the well planned and thoughtfully resourced outside areas. They experiment and gain understanding of weight and measure. They fill and empty buckets and, using a pulley system constructed from the climbing frame, they correctly identify how heavy the bucket becomes as they add more or less water to it. Even very young babies are developing an understanding of shape and measure as they attempt to fit circular lids, from the treasure basket into one another. Children are extremely creative and discuss the 'hot chocolate' they make using soil and cold water which they collect from outdoors. Indoors, children continue their imaginative play as they pretend to be hairdressers. They describe the hair straighteners as 'grabbers' as they attempt to style the model's hair.

Children have fantastic opportunities to learn of the natural world as they engage in extremely well planned and resourced activities. They are extremely confident communicators and fully able to express themselves as they discuss how the fresh fish, octopus and shells feel and appear to them. They use highly descriptive language as they discuss the 'shiny scales' and 'mucus in the gills', extending their learning and language skills further. Staff are highly skilled and ask lots of open-ended questions to encourage full interaction from the children. Children have many opportunities to practice their mark-making and writing skills as they make checklists in the outdoors. Younger children discover the shapes they make in the sand and play dough, correctly identifying them as circles. Young children use single words and hand gestures to communicate with staff, pointing and holding their hands out. Staff respond to them with warmth and kindness which in turn supports children's self-esteem, providing them with a real sense of belonging. For example, babies are handled extremely sensitively, ensuring they feel safe, valued and secure. This is demonstrated as staff gently rock them and sing to them whilst bottle feeding. High priority is also given to ensuring children take part in a range of activities to stimulate and promote sensory development. For example, babies love to look at their reflection in the floor mirrors and enjoy a multitude of sensory experiences as they play with musical toys. In addition, children have regular access to a sensory room, where they can relax and watch the bubble tubes and the different coloured lights that move around the room. Children make very rapid progress in their information and technology skills through access to an exceptional range of resources. They display an excellent understanding and are confident in the use of the smartboard correctly identifying healthy eating options.

The nursery is fully committed and takes all required steps to ensure the children's welfare needs are fully met. Children have first class opportunities for exercise and fresh air as they regularly access the outdoors. They enjoy the freedom to run, explore and practice their balancing skills as they climb on the exciting climbing frames. This contributes towards their very good health as they gain increasing

control over their bodies. In addition, they enjoy extremely nutritious snacks and display very good manners as they share their meals together. Children's behaviour is exceptional as staff are highly skilled in interacting with them and also display a thorough understanding of supporting each child's emotional needs. Staff members and the nursery management are passionate with regard to the care and education of all children and actively promote their vision statement of 'empowering everyone to achieve'.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

<b>How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	1

### The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

<b>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	1
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	1
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	1
The effectiveness of safeguarding	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	1
The effectiveness of partnerships	1
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	1

### The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	1
The extent to which children feel safe	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	1
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	1

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## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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