

Denbigh Integrated Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspector	Sharon, Amelia Robson
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Registered person	North Tyneside Council Community Services
Type of inspection	Care
Type of care	Full day care, Out of School care

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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 provider must give a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must give a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Day Care and Childminding (inspection) (England) Regulations 2005 No 2300 Regulations 5 and 6).

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?

Denbigh Integrated Centre is situated in Denbigh First School, Howdon, North Tyneside. It provides a range of services for families with young children on behalf of North Tyneside Council Children's Services. The centre operates from a large room which can be partitioned to make two rooms. It has a kitchen and staff room and shares the toilet facilities with the school nursery. In the main, the centre serves the local community.

The centre is open Monday to Friday from 08:00 until 18:00 for 52 weeks of the year. It is registered to care for 24 children aged from two to eight years of age. During term time the out of school provision offers sessions before school from 08:00 until 09:00 and after school from 15:15 until 18:00. Staff take and collect children to/from neighbouring schools. Nursery sessions at the centre are available from 09:00 until 11:30 and 12:45 until 15:15 during term time. Children are able to stay for lunch and attend for the full day. The centre nursery provides wrap around care for those children attending the school nursery and they are able to have lunch at the centre. The centre also provides holiday provision.

Six permanent staff work with the children and all hold a level three qualification for working with young children. There are 60 children on roll at present.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health and well-being are promoted through very good flexible routines that help them understand about good personal hygiene. Children know to wash their hands at appropriate times and the reason for doing this. Comprehensive policies and procedures are in place regarding children's health and hygiene, including a detailed procedure to be followed regarding the care of a sick child. Which helps to minimise the risk of cross-infection and therefore ensures children's health is both safeguarded and promoted. Accident and medication records are in place and confidentially maintained. Staff have appropriate first aid qualifications which ensures children's well-being is preserved.

Children have access to a balanced and varied diet, that takes into account the views of parents and the preferences of the children, including vegetarian options. Staff ensure that children have opportunities to enjoy fresh fruit and vegetables everyday. Children are able to help themselves to fresh fruit and drinks from the water cooler throughout the day, which helps to promote independence and choice. Meal times are very sociable occasions, with children and staff sitting together discussing interests and home events.

Children take part in a wide range of physical activities that promote and further develop their good health and well-being. They have opportunities to use the large outdoor area on a daily basis, allowing them to confidently develop skills, such as riding bicycles and balancing on skateboards. Children are able to explore, investigate and experiment using the outdoor equipment and the garden. They have had opportunities to plant spring bulbs and willow arches in the garden. They visit local parks on a regular basis and have also visited the local outdoor centre.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a very safe, secure and well maintained environment. Children are safe and secure both indoors and outdoors because staff put into practice the comprehensive range of policies and procedures for the setting. For example, they hold monthly fire drills with the children. Risk assessments are in place, however, they are only carried out on a monthly basis. Rooms are attractive and welcoming, with evidence of children's art work displayed, illustrating different topics and themes.

Children access an extensive variety of good play materials and equipment, that is maintained to a high standard. The layout of the rooms and the accessibility of the toys and activities means that children can move around both freely and safely. Children are able to make choices about what they want to do and the areas they wish to play in, therefore, promoting their confidence and independence.

Knowledgeable staff understand and follow the comprehensive policies and procedures to protect and preserve children's well-being. They understand about keeping children safe through their knowledge of issues relating to child protection and have completed relevant training. Staff provide children with opportunities to talk about being safe, including activities and outings relating to road safety. This helps children to develop their understanding about keeping themselves safe, both indoors and outdoors.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle very well, they are extremely happy and have developed trusting relationships with the staff who care for them. As a result, children are very confident and independent, happily making choices and decisions about what they want to do. Staff have a great understanding of each child's needs, they interact well with them, giving lots of attention, encouragement and motivation to play and enjoy the activities. Children have opportunities to enjoy the extensive range of toys and activities in a calm, relaxed and very friendly environment. Staff encourage children to become involved in planning activities and suggesting themes, this ensures children are interested and happy during their time at the setting.

Children are able to freely select toys and activities from the well resourced play areas. They are very enthusiastic as they use their natural sense of curiosity and develop their imagination. Children are provided with lots of different art and craft materials, which they use in many ways to make interesting pictures and models. They recently made lanterns to celebrate the Chinese New Year and pictures of the various animals related to this. Children's art work is clearly displayed in the rooms and there are lots of photographs of the children taking part in various activities and on outings. Staff fully value the children they care for and have a very good understanding of how they learn and develop. This is evident in the way the play areas and resources are organised and in the excellent care and attention children receive. Staff have a sound knowledge of each child and the wishes of parents to ensure children can progress, have fun and enjoy attending the setting.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are cared for as individuals with differences being acknowledged and enjoyed. Children gain a very good understanding of the wider world and their local community through the very good range of activities and resources available, including the celebration of various festivals. Therefore, developing an awareness and positive attitude towards diversity. Clear and detailed information is recorded in respect of each child's individual needs and is updated as required. Staff have very good knowledge of the comprehensive policies in place regarding diversity and disability.

Children are extremely well behaved, they learn about sharing, showing respect and interacting positively with others. They are provided with very good role models from staff. They have high, but realistic expectations of the children, they listen to what they say and are polite to the children and each other. Therefore, children feel secure, valued and are developing good manners. Staff use appropriate methods for dealing with children's behaviour and there are comprehensive policies and procedures in place, including anti-bullying strategies. Children become increasingly aware of the behavioural boundaries and have been involved in deciding what the 'ground rules' should be. Staff support, praise and encourage positive behaviour, so that children grow in confidence and develop good self esteem.

Relationships with parents are promoted and developed well. Staff are very friendly and approachable, they ensure time is made available to exchange information and take part in discussions with parents about their children. Parents are provided with a detailed handbook, which gives them a good insight into the service provided and the settings policies and procedures. They are also invited to parents evenings and receive newsletters regularly. A detailed policy is in place regarding complaints.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The required policies, procedures and record keeping systems are in place, very well organised and confidentially maintained. The manager ensures ratios are correct at all times and that the day to day care of the children is given high priority. This is reflected in the extremely enthusiastic, well motivated staff team, who work very well together. Staff are committed to the ongoing improvement of the club through the uptake of training opportunities to enhance their personal development and improve practice. Children benefit from the excellent support and interaction from staff, who are all well qualified and skilled. Staff morale is very good. They have a very good understanding of the comprehensive policies and procedures and ensure they are put into practice. Therefore, promoting the care and welfare of the children.

In 2006 staff were awarded 'Aiming High' and 'North Tyneside Approach' quality assurance schemes. The setting is well organised. A very broad and varied selection of resources and activities are provided and very easily accessible, which help to enhance children's learning, development and enjoyment. The deployment of staff reflects and meets the children's individual needs. Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection there were some recommendations raised. Firstly the premises were to be kept secure at all times and effective systems were required to monitor entry. The provision has an intercom system in place and the front door is kept locked at all times, also all visitors and staff sign in and out of the provision. Children are now able to store coats and bags on the coat pegs provided in the entrance hall.

Complaints about the childcare provision

Since the 1 April 2004 there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which can be seen 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):

- improve the risk assessment procedures.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2473) which is available from Ofsted's website:
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