

Branches @ Winlaton West Lane Community Primary School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY362996
Inspection date	29 May 2008
Inspector	Andrea, Jane Lockyer
Setting Address	West Lane Community Primary School, West Lane, BLAYDON-ON-TYNE, Tyne and Wear, NE21 6PH
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Registered person	The Governing Body of Winlaton West Lane CP School
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?

Little Branches @ Winlaton West Lane Community Primary School is run by the Governing Body of Winlaton West Primary School. It is based within Winlaton West Primary School in Gateshead. The out of school is located in the lower school building and operates Monday to Friday from 07.30 to 08.55 and from 15.15 to 18.00 during term time. During holiday periods it operates Monday to Friday from 07.30 to 18.00. There is a fully enclosed outdoor play area. Local amenities and public transport systems are within walking distance. Children who attend the provision are from Winlaton West Lane Community Primary School. There are currently 45 children on roll including children over the age of eight years. There are a total of 10 staff who work directly with the children, half of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment, where they are developing a good awareness of the importance of hygiene and personal care. They independently manage their own personal health care and hygiene very well, for example, as they wash their hands

after visiting the toilet, before handling food, take a rest and a drink after physical activity and use tissues and wipes routinely. Children are protected from the risks of cross-infection and illness by the good health and hygiene practises implemented by staff. Good communication with parents and records ensure children's individual health needs are met. Appropriate medication and accident records are in place, however, parents have not signed accident records.

Children's individual dietary needs are thoroughly discussed with parents. Any special requirements are fully recorded and observed by staff. Children are developing a good awareness of the benefits of a healthy diet. They are able to make choices from the well balanced, nutritious, healthy meals and snacks provided, and access a selection of fresh fruit and drinks throughout the day. Children are encouraged to help plan menus and prepare snacks and meals, such as homemade vegetable soup, fresh fruit salads and homemade pizzas. Menus are planned for six weeks in advance and provide children with three healthy options.

Good daily opportunities for physical play inside and outside help the children to enjoy exercise, develop new skills and maintain healthy bodies, for example, an obstacle course, dodge ball, cricket, rounders, soft play, stilts, tennis and using balancing and climbing apparatus. Children have also enjoyed visits from parents and qualified instructors to teach them new skills, such as tag rugby, street dancing, juggling and specialised sports games. They have good opportunities for rest and quiet activities according to their individual needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are well cared for in a safe environment where the risks are identified and minimised. Safety procedures and risk assessments are effectively carried out by staff, which ensure that children are able to move around freely, safely and independently. Children attending the out of school provision are from the school in which the provision is based, and although the school carry out fire drills with the children, the out of school provision have not done this. Staff give high priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe both in and out of the premises. They effectively achieve a good balance between freedom and setting safe limits. This allows children to develop a sense of danger and become knowledgeable about how to protect themselves from harm. For example, they learn about road safety when on outings, use large outdoor play apparatus and discuss the danger of talking to strangers.

Children use a comprehensive range of safe, good quality, and developmentally appropriate toys and resources, which are well-organised to encourage independent access.

Children are well protected. Staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues and procedures in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board's guidelines, which ensure that children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the childcare provision, they are very happy and settled. They eagerly engage in a wide range of stimulating and enjoyable activities, such as role play, art and design, board games, computer skills and imaginative play, which enhance and promote their individual development and learning skills. Staff actively seek the views of children when planning activities, which gives them a sense of belonging and strong sense of self. Plans are

flexible and emphasise continued learning through leisure, sport and art activities in a relaxed environment.

Children's independence and confidence are promoted very well through a variety of opportunities. They are able to move around freely, taking part in planned activities or activities of their own choosing. They select freely from very well organised resources and are skilfully guided by staff to extend their learning. They enjoy affectionate, sensitive and caring relationships with staff who know them well. Children's care arrangements are well met as a result of staff being aware of each child's individual requirements and ensuring that all children receive good levels of support.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice, resulting in all children feeling valued and free from discrimination. Children access a good range of activities and resources which increase their awareness of diversity, for example, dolls, puzzles, games, books, small world figures, pictures and posters. Themed nights and festivals, such as American and Italian night, Chinese New Year and Divali promote children's understanding of others and the wider world. However, there are limited resources available for children to increase their awareness of people with disabilities and learning difficulties.

Staff have realistic expectations of children's behaviour. They implement a range of good strategies to promote positive behaviour that help children to understand right from wrong. Children respond positively to meaningful praise and sensitive encouragement, which contributes to their social skills, confidence and self-esteem. They willingly help clean up, share activities and games, and help one another. They show care and concern for each other and behave extremely well. Children are actively encouraged to share their views and opinions, make their own choices and take part in the day to day organisation of their club. For example, they have their own children's council, they help to plan activities and menus, prepare snacks and meals, develop rules and boundaries for behaviour and take part in activities of their own choosing. This helps children take responsibility for themselves and others and promotes a strong sense of self and belonging.

Children benefit from good relationships between staff and parents. Good verbal and written communication ensures that children's individual needs are met very well. Policies, procedures, newsletters, a welcome pack and a noticeboard ensure that parents are kept well-informed of all aspects of the childcare practice, and about the care, welfare and progress of their children. Parents are made welcome in the provision and some have offered their skills, for example, teaching children how to play tag rugby and develop their football skills. Staff actively seek the views of parents and provide them with regular newsletters and questionnaires. A poster is displayed informing parents of how to make a complaint, however, the written policy does not contain the correct contact details for Ofsted.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The well-organised environment and good daily routines ensure that children are happy and well-settled. Good opportunities are made for all children to be involved in free play, social

interaction, eating, resting and playing outside. This means that children are confident to initiate and extend their own play and learning.

Staff work very well together; effective organisation, planning and communication between all ensures that roles and responsibilities are clearly defined, which contributes to the smooth running of the club and provides children with stability and a sense of security. Their good knowledge, skills and positive attitude towards extended training enhances the care and welfare of all children.

Comprehensive policies and procedures are up-to-date and implemented effectively, helping to keep children healthy and safeguard their welfare.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 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):

- ensure that parents sign the accident records
- carry out fire drills with children
- provide a range of resources that increase children's awareness of people with disabilities and learning difficulties
- ensure that the complaints policy contains the correct contact details for Ofsted.

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 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk