



## **Pudsey Lowtown Primary**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY315431
<b>Inspection date</b>	27 April 2006
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<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Best Family Childcare Ltd Out of School Club has been registered since September 2005. It is situated within the school grounds of Pudsey Lowtown Primary School and offers care from a portacabin. The club serves the local and surrounding areas. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The setting is registered to provide care for 24 children from 3 to 8 years of age, before and after school, during school holidays. There are currently 29 children on roll.

The out of school club opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 08.00 until 18.00 during school holidays and from 07.30 until 09.00 before school and

15.15 until 18.00 after school. There are four staff working with the children and 2 of the staff have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the local authority and from staff at the school.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a very bright, clean and well maintained environment. They are independent when managing their personal toileting needs, which helps to develop their confidence and awareness of hygiene practises. For example, they are aware they must wash their hands before eating their snacks and after using the toilet. Staff have current first aid certificates and there are very clear details for the exclusion of sick children, thus preventing cross contamination.

However, accident and existing injury recordings do not maintain confidentiality. A well stocked first aid box is easily accessible on the premises. Staff understand the importance of having systems in place for health and hygiene procedures to protect children from infection, such as spraying and wiping tables immediately after use.

Healthy eating is promoted successfully as children are offered a very nutritious and well balanced menu, which is displayed and shared with parents. For example, breakfast consists of a choice of cereals, porridge, toast, crumpets and fresh fruit. Self help skills are enhanced further as children spread toppings of their choice onto their toast and pour their own selection of drinks. Staff take account of parents wishes, so that children's individual health and dietary requirements are met successfully. For example, the menu contains vegetarian burgers and macaroni cheese. Children easily access fresh drinking water, which is essential for their health and well-being. Meal times are social occasions that provide children with good opportunities to interact and mix with their peers.

Physical development is well promoted as children access a wide selection of various activities. They delight in using the adventure playground where their gross motor skills are extended further. For example, they compete in 'mini Olympics', where they record the times of each others sporting events. Children become aware of how exercise affects their bodies and contributes to their good health. Staff thoughtfully plan and encourage children to develop their physical skills whilst having fun, such as children easily accessing the table football. Children move freely with pleasure and confidence within the setting and show respect for each others personal space when playing together.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children have access to sufficient safe space to allow them to enjoy a wide variety of activities. The setting is welcoming and colourful. For example, there is a bright red sofa with matching blinds at the windows. Children use an excellent range of toys

and resources which are easily accessible and promotes their independence and choice successfully. Furniture is of a suitable design and conforms to safety standards. Children have use of the schools outdoor play areas which are fully enclosed with security fencing, and include sturdy purpose built adventure play equipment. Attractive displays of the children's art work develops their self-esteem effectively.

Written risk assessments are in place which are used on a daily basis to ensure the safety of children. For example, all equipment is checked prior to being used to minimise the risk of accidental injury. The club has effective safety precautions in place to help keep children safe, such as the external door is always locked with a security key pad and visitors must sign the visitors log book. Staff have a very good understanding of how to protect children and recognise this as their first priority. They are vigilant and know the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child. Staff explain safe practises, such as "don't run around or you may fall", which develops children's awareness of cause and effect.

Children are supervised at all times, and there is a clear procedure to follow in the event of a child being lost or not collected. The youngest children are escorted to and from their designated class rooms in the school to ensure their safety at all times. Safety is reinforced when children play outside as staff offer useful reminders, such as "always stay within the sight of staff" and "you must not go beyond the hut". This practise enables children to learn to keep themselves safe. Smoke alarms are in place and are effective. An emergency evacuation procedure is in place with a system for recording them. Children move freely in their environment and are protected from harm. Staff maintain regular, informal communication with parents, which develops partnerships between all those in keeping children safe.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children settle happily, develop confidence in the setting and are very enthusiastic to participate. Relationships with key workers are good, and this helps children develop a strong sense of identity both individually and within a group situation. Children enjoy the relaxed, calm atmosphere as music plays in the background whilst they spend their time purposefully. For example, they enjoy drawing around templates to create the design of a mask. Good opportunities are available to extend children's hand-eye co-ordination, as they have a broad range of construction resources to choose from. They delight in producing large towers and enjoy the levels of challenge which are appropriate to their age and stage of development.

Structured activities maximise opportunities for informal learning, such as baking, where children engage in decorating biscuits and creating chocolate nests for Easter. Children are confident speakers and share their feelings with ease, such as "I'm not an easy one to tackle" and "I like drawing and playing with Lego best". The staff are skilled in talking to the children, responding well to them and listening to their ideas. They ensure children are engaged in their activities and ask questions that extend their experiences and learning effectively.

Designated areas of play contain excellent quality toys and resources; these enable children to develop their ideas and interests successfully, including the home corner area and the arts and crafts table. Children communicate easily with each other and this helps them to enjoy and achieve. There is a large delightful picture of an owl displayed on the wall, which is the motif for their club; they have personal responsibility to place their name on this owl as they self register on arrival. They have excellent relationships with the staff and this has a positive impact on their well-being and sense of security. Children are stimulated as attending the club is exciting and fun.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children develop a strong sense of belonging to the club and become very familiar with routines and expectations. Behaviour is excellent and children are aware of the boundaries. For example, they know they must not enter the kitchen when passing their dishes to staff. Praise is abundant which promotes children's self-esteem and confidence. Children have very good manners and are heard saying "please" and "thank you" to staff and to each other. They learn to take responsibility for their own behaviour and think about the needs of others, sharing and taking turns. For example, they all help staff to tidy away activities. Children are actively involved in devising the club rules, as they talk about them and make decisions for what should be in place, such as "we must care for each other".

Equal opportunities are promoted well throughout the club and children are treated equally. They have excellent opportunities to learn about themselves, each other, and the world about them, through varied and well planned activities. For example, the children drew pictures of dragons and made masks for Chinese New Year; the displays were mounted onto lollipop sticks. A wall display shows children's designs of Easter eggs is also on offer. The children have a good range of dressing up clothes, toys and resources which reflect the diversity of society.

The club respects and values parents and a good partnership is established with them so that children's individual needs are understood. Parents talk informally with staff every day to exchange information about routines and activities; this helps the children feel secure and confident. Parents have clear information about the setting, such as through the notice board, where they can see at a glance the weekly menus and the evacuation procedure. They are aware of their routine of signing their children in when they arrive at the club. All written parental permissions are in place which helps to ensure the care and safety of all children.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Staff work very well together as a cohesive team. They promote children's welfare, enabling them to participate actively and make good progress within a well organised and safe environment. Clear established monitoring and evaluation processes enable

staff to identify strengths and areas for development in their practice, which identifies a commitment to improvement. There is a thorough induction programme for new staff, such as ensuring they sign to acknowledge that they have read and understood the clubs policies and procedures. New staff members are allocated a mentor for their three month probationary period. Children are supported by a good ratio of staff, and the environment is bright and organised in a way that allows the children to access designated areas of play.

Policies and procedures are in place, the majority of which are developed and organised well; these are readily available to parents. Recordings are in place and comply with mandatory regulations. The club has excellent links with the school which enables effective relationships to be maintained which in turn benefits the care and welfare of the children. Staff are appropriately vetted and have suitable skills and experience to work with children. They respond well to the children and listen to their ideas, such as using good questions that extend children's thinking, vocabulary and learning. Documentation supports the care of the children and is stored appropriately to maintain confidentiality and security.

Overall, the setting 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):

- ensure accident and existing injury recordings maintain confidentiality
- review all policies and procedures to ensure they are in line with Ofsted requirements.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)