



Munchkins Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY299585
Inspection date	01 September 2005
Inspector	Janet, Elizabeth Singleton
Setting Address	Ightenhill Nursery School, Lionel Street, Burnley, Lancashire, BB12 6DY
Telephone number	01282 427154
E-mail	
Registered person	Pauline Ann Robinson
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Sessional 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Munchkins club opened in March 2005 and operates from 2 play rooms within Ightenhill nursery school. It is situated in the Ightenhill area of Burnley.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the setting at any one time. The setting opens from 11.30 until 15.30 each weekday during term time. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 20 children on roll and the setting takes children who attend the nursery school.

The setting employs two staff who are qualified in early years. There are further qualified staff available to cover should the need arise.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children stay healthy because the staff promote satisfactory hygiene practices and there are appropriate policies and procedures in place. Staff check all areas prior to children arriving to ensure they are clean for children therefore reducing the risk of cross contamination. Children readily wash their hands before snack and after visiting the bathroom, they talk about being clean and washing germs off their hands as they develop satisfactory hygiene practices of their own. Children's health needs are further met as the staff have all medical details and information is fully recorded with all consent forms for medical attention and treatment in place. Accident procedures are implemented to an inadequate standard as parents are not asked to sign the documentation.

Children benefit from healthy snacks of fresh fruit and water or milk to drink. However, children cannot access a drink of water during the play sessions and therefore their opportunity to monitor their own needs is limited. Although children bring their own packed lunches they learn about healthy options, as the staff discuss apples and grapes being good for you whilst sat at the table.

Children enjoy a range of physical activities which contribute to their good health as they take part in the many indoor and outdoor opportunities. They practise their physical movements, in music and as they dance as they are playing. Children delight in climbing up and over the climbing frame and controlling the bikes as they stop, start and turn with skill and control when playing in the outdoor area.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming and safe environment in which they can move freely and make some choices from the activities provided. They choose from a suitable range of resources including creative, imaginative and messy play, for example, sand and water. They play safely and are warmly welcomed into the setting by staff who greet children and parents in a friendly manner.

Children are safe, as security of the premises is satisfactory; the door is locked and access is by a member of staff, therefore, children cannot leave the premises unsupervised and there can be no unauthorised access to children. The children are cared for in an environment where risks are identified and minimised by having the appropriate documentation and risk assessments in place. Children are learning about keeping safe and staff use gentle reminders regarding the boundaries of the setting, for example, do not run, shall we share and hanging coats up. The children's safety is further promoted as all required safety features are in place.

Children's welfare is compromised as the staff, although aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and the need to protect children, are not aware of the correct procedures to follow.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy and achieve because the staff provide appropriate activities and have an informal plan based on the areas of play, for example, physical, creative and construction. Children sit and enjoy chalking at the easel, they explore the sand play and they glue and stick, making pictures as they use their imagination. Children show an interest in what they are doing and are generally occupied in the activities provided.

Children's self esteem and self confidence is generally promoted as staff talk to children about topics of their choosing, for example, children talk about their gerbils and guinea pigs at home. Relationships are generally good, as staff praise children telling them they have done well and how lovely their work is, as a result children's sense of self worth and achievement is developed.

Children learn about shapes as they sit with staff and name the triangle, square and circle. They enjoy the book corner and tell each other stories as they are beginning to make relationships. Staff evaluate the activities to determine the children's needs and to ensure they are provided with topics to make sure they are learning and remain occupied. Children are developing their sense of humour as staff make appropriate jokes, as they laugh about the child's shoe fitting the staff member.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an environment where parents are welcomed into the setting and opportunities are provided to discuss their child with staff. Children are respected and welcomed into the setting as they make choices from those activities and equipment made available to them. They learn about culture and festivals as they take part in activities and celebrate their own and the festivals of others. Children who have special needs are fully included as the staff are aware of the need to adapt activities to allow all children to take part.

Children are learning how to manage their behaviour because the staff have suitable strategies in place as they set boundaries and guidelines which are linked to safety and form the expectations of the setting. Staff remind children by the use of gentle prompts to reinforce behaviour, understanding that children have different starting points and some need more encouragement to hang their coats up and to listen to each other.

A satisfactory relationship with parents is fostered as staff have daily opportunities to talk about their child. Information regarding the club is provided in the school

brochure, on the notice board and through the newsletters being sent out to all parents to keep them informed of changes that may affect their children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from an environment and practice where space and resources are organised to meet children's needs by having their own areas of play and in which they can move freely, accessing activities without restriction. Satisfactory documentation is maintained however, the times of attendance of the children are not recorded. The children benefit from a structured routine including outdoor play, quiet times and snack periods. The adult child ratio's are maintained and there is a member of staff who holds a certificate of first aid resulting in children's needs being met. The staff are not aware of the National Standards and therefore, have insufficient information about their roles and responsibilities.

Overall, the setting meets the needs of those children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints to report

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 satisfactory. 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 all staff are aware of the action to take should a child protection issue arise
- ensure all accident records are signed by parents
- ensure times of attendance of the children are recorded on a daily basis

- ensure all staff are aware of the National Standards
- ensure drinking water is available at all times.

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