



Colleton After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY316816
Inspection date 23 May 2006
Inspector Claudia Padfield

Setting Address The Colleton Primary School, Colleton Drive, Twyford, Reading, Berkshire, RG10 0AX

Telephone number

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Registered person Polehampton ASC

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?

Colleton After school club is run by a parent committee and opens term time within the school from 15:15 to 18:00 hours. They are registered for 24 children from four to 11 years of age. The group use the same classroom every evening and have access on to a large playing area. Children attend a variety of session each week. The club have over 50 children on roll. The after school club employs five members of staff. Of these, half hold appropriate early years qualifications or are working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are independent in their personal care and staff give timely reminders to ensure they stay healthy during daily routines. Children gain an understanding or how to look after themselves through discussion and topics such as healthy eating at snack time. However the staff miss opportunities for the children to extend this knowledge further during daily routines. For example washing up after snack time. Children's health is well maintained because staff have relevant first aid training and know how to deal with accidents effectively. Detailed procedures are in place to administer medication or first aid and records are effectively shared with the parents.

Children benefit from the choices and selection of snacks that they independently serve and eat when they choose. Staff stay close at hand to provide supervision and support if required. Through planning and discussion, healthy eating and children's wishes are accommodated by the staff team. Children enjoy and feel able to make their needs and wishes within the group known, which in turn promotes high levels of self esteem.

Children participate enthusiastically in physical activities, staff actively promote and participate in an excellent range of outdoor activities which are offered on a daily basis. This is helping the children to understand the importance of regular exercise to maintain a healthy life style. Children have a large free space to use and apparatus to climb and develop new skills. Children need and relish the opportunities offered to play outside.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children learn how to keep themselves safe through strong guidance and understood expectations from the staff team. Children learn how to handle a range of tools safely, including scissors and have their awareness of dangers increased through discussions with staff. Staff are vigilant about formal and informal daily risk assessments which are implemented to ensure any potential hazards or risks are removed and records maintained to identify the impact of any potential dangers to those using that piece of equipment.

Children benefit from a welcoming and inviting after-school club environment, where highly effective use is made of the space within the classroom and outside in the grounds. Children have independent access to a wide range of toys and resources, staff ensure these are presented in a clean and safe manner. Procedures are in place to ensure the furniture, equipment and resources are well maintained, safe and suitable for the children's use.

Staff have a good understanding of how to safeguard children to protect their welfare. A suitable number of staff hold a current first aid qualification and staff have a secure

knowledge of the roles and responsibilities regarding child protection. These measures contribute to keeping the children safe and they can act appropriately and in the child's best interest.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children enjoy the time they spend at the after school club, they relish the range of activities and staff happily provide extra activities to meet the varying ages and interests of the children that attend. Staff listen to the children and value their thoughts and wishes. Children help to make decisions about the themes they cover and corresponding art work. They are proud of the portrait gallery showing adults their artwork and encouraging new children who attend to add their picture to the wall.

Good relationships are evident and the children relate well to one another and the staff team. Children spend their time purposefully and interaction is very effective and successful in helping children enjoy and achieve. Staff use a range of effective questioning techniques to extend their experiences and will always aim to provide the child with the materials they need to do the do the activities of choice.

Children have excellent opportunities to use the large outdoor space, they enjoy the freedom to run around and play football with staff. Children have a good range of equipment and eagerly use the scooters to move around the area. Staff provide a range of challenges to suit the varied age of children attending. The children understand the boundaries when out in the garden and take turns on the most popular equipment.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

The staff know the children extremely well and treat them with respect, meeting their individual needs which promotes high levels of self esteem and confidence. Children develop a sense of right and wrong and are consulted about the groups expectations. Themes and projects are carried out on a half termly basis and the children learn about the wider community through these, such as Chinese new year.

Children's behaviour is excellent and they are interested, lively and polite. They say please and thank you with little or no prompting and have a strong sense of right and wrong. Children eagerly volunteer to help with chores such as tidying up and getting the toys out for the garden play. Staff use praise and encouragement to build confidence and self esteem. Children are developing a strong sense of self through this positive attitude.

Children benefit from the strong partnership with parents, staff welcome the parents and share anecdotes of events during each session and children's achievements. The sharing of information supports and enhances the children's time they spend at

the group.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are well settled and enjoy the time they spend at the group. Staff provide an interesting and stimulating space for children to play. They update and review policies and procedures to ensure that children feel secure and confident. The children have access to a wide variety of activities and are able to make suggestions and choices about the things they do.

The business like approach to the documentation ensures children are well protected, however one member of staff still lacks the required clearance checks. Children are protected by staff working as a team to ensure they are not left alone working with the children. A good two way flow of information ensures continuity of care. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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 all staff have suitable clearance checks in place

- increase opportunities for children to help with daily routines to increase their understanding of being healthy

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