



Skool Kidz Childcare Ltd

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY317344
Inspection date	20 April 2006
Inspector	Kay Roberts
Setting Address	St. Marys Church Hall, Darlington Street, Bath, Avon, BA2 4EB
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Registered person	Skool Kidz Childcare Ltd
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?

Skool Kidz Childcare Limited at St Mary's Church Hall, Darlington Street, Bath, first registered in 2005 to provide out of school care. The management organisation also have responsibility for a further 2 settings registered in the name of Skool Kidz.

Children have access to the hall and an enclosed garden. The group operates during term time from Monday to Friday from 15.15 hours until 18.30 hours. Registration is for a maximum of 24 children and currently there are 40 children on roll. The group caters for children with English as an additional language and those with special educational needs. There are 2 staff on roll and both hold a relevant child care

qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children play in a clean environment and without prompting take off their shoes before going on the deep pile carpet. The risk of them becoming ill is minimised as staff follow hygienic procedures, such as, wiping the tables with anti-bacterial spray before snack. The policy for excluding children who are sick is shared with parents. Children wash their hands before snack and smaller children are given independence with the provision of a small step. Children's welfare is promoted as there are effective procedures for managing both accidents and medication.

Children help themselves to easily accessible drinking water throughout the session. Snack time is a social occasion when all children sit together. They discuss what has happened at school and the books they have enjoyed reading. The three week varied menu ensures that children remain interested in the wide selection of healthy foods, which are available on a daily basis. They are independent as they butter their own bread or toast and add a topping of honey, jam or marmite. After they have finished they take their dishes to the hatch. Children do not go hungry as they can eat as much as they want. To make the fruit more appealing staff are creative and make fruit kebabs and smoothies. They learn about healthy eating through discussion during cooking activities.

Although children have opportunities to play in the garden, this is not on a daily basis. They enjoy playing hide and seek, and with the bats and balls. Indoors children develop large muscle skills as they jump over the long material snake as it is twirled around by another child. On other occasions they participate in aerobic sessions.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to a large, bright, well presented hall. It is organised so that children can play undisturbed and move around freely. However the room is not particularly inviting to children as staff have not personalised the environment with children's art work, photographs or posters. On occasions the room is not organised prior to children's arrival. When staff and children arrive, staff set out the room whilst children confidently help themselves to the range of clean, safe resources which are stored in a sack. Children currently remain interested in what toys are available as the group are fairly new. In the longer term children may lose interest as limited storage severely limits the purchase of additional materials. There are sufficient tables and chairs so all children can sit together.

Children play in a safe secure environment. There is a detailed risk assessment and premises are checked on a daily basis, using a tick sheet, to ensure potential hazards are removed. The risk of children having an accident is reduced as staff are

vigilant. Fire safety requirements are met and children know the emergency evacuation procedure as they practise the drill on a regular basis. There is a safe procedure for collecting children from school. However, children are not always protected as staff are not knowledgeable about local child protection procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children say they enjoy being at the after school club as there is always something to interest them. They remain interested in what is available as staff organise a good range of theme based activities. Children are happy and sing to themselves as they play. They express themselves in other ways by painting patterns and take care to ensure the colours do not mix. Three children work together to create a giant space ship from good quality construction material. Afterwards, proud of their achievements, they explain how it was made. Interested in this type of material, they have requested more advanced construction materials which are to be purchased in the near future. They use fine muscle skills and show good concentration as they use a pattern to calculate how to recreate flowers and hearts using hamma beads. They chat to each other about the patterns they have made in the past.

Fine muscle skills are further developed by older children as they attempt to knit. Those children who are more experienced assist those who are less skilled. Older children perform magic using tubs of play dough and their audience watch with interest. Children are resourceful, when they can not find a specific activity which meets their needs they use card to create a loom and begin weaving. Children are happy, confident and independent.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children do not have a sense of ownership as their artwork and photographs are not displayed. Those new to the provision settle quickly as they are introduced to the group and supported by staff until confidence is developed. Children develop confidence as staff value and include everyone. For example, participation is encouraged in whole group games; 'Granny's Footsteps', 'Apples and Pears' and 'Wink, Wink, Murder'.

Children's special needs are sensitively met as the named co-ordinator for this aspect of care is enthusiastic about her role and very experienced. Although the setting provides care to children attending five different schools, they all play well together and form close friendships. Care and consideration is shown for peers and older children assist the younger ones. Children are polite and very well behaved. They show respect for their environment by taking off their shoes before walking on the carpet and tidying away their dishes when they have finished eating. Children learn to positively appreciate difference as they acknowledge cultural celebrations such as Chinese New Year. They made a Chinese Dragon, cooked and ate noodles using chop sticks. However children have little opportunity to play with resources

reflecting positive images of other cultures, disability or gender.

Children are secure in the knowledge that there is a relaxed working relationship between parents and staff. Parents are aware of practices within the setting as they sign a contract and know what policies and procedures are available. Discussion with staff keeps parents up to date.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. There are rigorous recruitment procedures and the bi-annual appraisal ensures the ongoing suitability of staff to work with children. Staff are clear about their remit as there is a thorough induction and effective communication systems. Skills are updated as staff attend regular training such as 'Diversity in the Work Place'.

Staff assume responsibility for co-ordinating different aspects of care, such as health and safety, and special needs. Generally the group is well organised; children consulted about new resources, planning of activities, layout of the room and appropriate staff deployment. However contingency arrangements are not made, for example, the room was not set up or checked prior to children's arrival on the day of the inspection, as a member of staff had been on training. Documentation is well organised, regularly reviewed, confidentially maintained and where appropriate shared with parents. Paperwork complies with the requirements of the National Standards so that children's health, safety and welfare are promoted.

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 staff have a full understanding of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and neglect, and knowledge of the local child protection procedures.
- increase the number of resources reflecting positive images of culture, gender and disability
- further develop children's sense of belonging within the physical environment
- further explore and where appropriate implement contingency arrangements so that children's health, safety and welfare are promoted 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