

Discovery School Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY318135
Inspection date	31 May 2006
Inspector	Lesley Anne Cannon

Setting Address	The Discovery School, Discovery Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4GJ
Telephone number	01732 847000
E-mail	
Registered person	Kinder Groups 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

KinderClub after-school and holiday club is owned by Kinder Groups Limited and registered in October, 2005. It operates from the main hall and a classroom at the Discovery School. It is situated on a housing estate in Kings Hill, West Malling. A maximum of 52 children may attend the after-school club at any one time. The club is open each weekday after school until 18:00 and during school holidays. All children share access to the secure school playground and field.

There are currently 25 children on roll. Children attending school full time may attend.

There are three staff employed who hold relevant childcare qualification and at least one first aider on site.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with balanced diet where regular meal times are maintained and a hot meal is offered at lunch time. Children are offered a selection of snacks and drinks with some

healthy options. This is an effective way of offering children choice whilst maintaining a balanced diet. The children are provided with the correct utensils for handling the food, encouraging independence. Water and squash are available with snack and at meal times. The children's individual dietary requirements are taken into consideration and alternatives are provided for children with special dietary needs.

The children know to wash their hands after visiting the toilet and before eating as it helps prevent the spread of germs. Children who have particular medical conditions are catered for. Accident and medication records are maintained and copies are given to parents helping to provide children with continuity of care. The group have a sick children policy in place protecting children from cross infection.

The children have access to a large secure outdoor play area, with the use of a variety of equipment. They are able to make decisions about what equipment they want to play with. They have alternative indoor arrangements when the weather is unsuitable. This encourages children to extend their physical skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from an organised environment where hazards have been addressed. This allows children to move around safely. The majority of the time children have adequate space to play and move around safely, and independently, however there are times when space is compromised. They have the freedom to choose from a selection of resources that are displayed, encouraging independence. The range of activities are suitable for the age of the children present. This allows children to move around independently. They are well maintained, kept clean and broken items discarded. Children learn to respect their toys by helping to tidy up or moving special toys to a safe place.

Children have access to a large enclosed outdoor play area. This area is fully enclosed with low seating and appropriate equipment for children ensuring children can explore in a safe environment. Regular fire drills are carried out and are recorded. The children have a good understanding of the procedures to follow and how to keep themselves safe.

Staff have a clear understanding of child protection procedures and the need to safeguard children in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The children relate well to the staff and to each other. They are happy to approach the staff for support, indicating trusting relationships are built. The children are interested in the activities available, such as home corner, pool table, table top games, and floor activities such as cars. However the range limited and lacks stimulation. Children can make choices about their activities, but if different items are required children have to ask the staff to collect them. The staff talk to the children about what their chosen activity and work with them, sharing and responding to the children's interests. For example, when making clay models staff and children share information about what they are making.

Outside children have a good range of activities, such as bats and balls, hoops, skipping ropes, cones, tennis racquets and football. They are able to decide which equipment they want to use encouraging independence.

Children also plant flowers outside and care for them helping them to understand the natural world.

They also have access to a broad range of creative activities for example, free painting, cutting and sticking, clay and dough. This gives children an opportunity to experiment and develop their creative skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are treated with respect and learn about themselves as individuals and others around them through play and conversation. Children are encouraged to make decisions about and participate in all activities. This helps children to gain understanding of themselves and develops a sense of belonging.

Staff have a positive attitude towards diversity; however the resources are limited and do not promote a positive view of the wider world so children's knowledge in this area is not extended.

Currently there are no children attending with special educational needs. However there are processes in place if required and staff are forward thinking as to how they can assist children and their parents.

There are written behaviour management strategies in place, which are shared with the parents. The children are involved in setting their 'rules', which are posted on their notice board so children can see them. The children benefit from praise and encouragement. Their behaviour is generally good and the staff are very adept at defusing situations before they arise.

The parents are given a prospectus, which includes the aims and objectives and a copy of all the policies and procedures. They are verbally informed about how their child is getting on and the staff are always available to speak to them. This helps provide children with continuity of care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

There are three qualified members of staff and one who is First Aid trained. The staffing ratios are maintained and the staff work directly with the children at all times, providing them with continuity and security. The majority of personal information is held at the company's head office, however the supervisor does hold necessary duplicate information. Other relevant documents are maintained such as a register and children's details. These are all stored appropriately. A complaints log is maintained and will be shared with parents. Children's records are confidential and stored appropriately.

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 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 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):

- improve resources to enhance children's play opportunities and choice
- improve resources to reflect positive images of culture, gender and disability

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