



## Kids Club Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

**Unique Reference Number** 226424

**Inspection date** 11 April 2006

**Inspector** Jan Clarke-Potter

**Setting Address** Harborough Leisure Centre, Northampton Road, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 9HF

**Telephone number** 01858 410115

**E-mail**

**Registered person** Serco Leisure

**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](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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Kids Club, Market Harborough Leisure Centre, is located on the outskirts of the town of Market Harborough, in South Leicestershire. It is an Out of School provision and run by Serco as a holiday play scheme. The play scheme opened in 1992 and operates from the dance studio. It also uses the main sports hall and the covered dome. Children have access to two toilet areas in the leisure centre. The play scheme is registered to care for 70 children within the age range of five to under eight years. Children aged over eight years also attend the play scheme.

The facility is currently open for the main school holiday periods which include the

Easter and summer holidays. The opening hours are from 10:30 to 15:00.

There is a sporting emphasis to the activities provided by the scheme which includes team games. There are currently four staff employed to work for the out of school facility, two members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children keep healthy because they are cared for in a clean environment, which helps to prevent spread of infection. They also maintain good health through using appropriate hygiene practices in their daily routines, for example, washing their hands before eating and after going to the toilet. Children's well-being is secured through staff having knowledge of appropriate health practices, although paediatric first aid certificates are not always kept up-to-date. However the system for administering medication is secure and there are arrangements with parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment. Children's well-being is safeguarded as staff have awareness of dietary needs and allergies, and have received specialist medical training.

Children develop coordination and control of their bodies through a variety of physical games and activities, and they are able to continue with physical activities inside during wet weather.

Children bring their own packed lunch to the play scheme. Others are able to choose sandwiches from the café at an extra cost. Children are able to access water during the sessions. This ensures that they are well hydrated and comfortable.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have safe and generally comfortable accommodation for their care and play because the premises is adequately equipped and maintained. For example the main building is heated, and maintenance regularly assess all areas for health and safety. Children are protected because there are secure systems for access to the leisure centre. And children are supervised by members of staff as they walk them to and from the different areas. Children are kept safe because staff reduce most risks, for example they know what to do in the event of a fire evacuation although none have been practised. Children's welfare is safeguarded because staff have a satisfactory knowledge of child protection issues and know the procedures for uncollected children. However, there are no written procedures for lost children. Children learn about safety and take responsibility for establishing safe practice. For example, they help to tidy away activities to keep safe order and obey rules that link to safety, such as no running in areas where it is not safe to do so.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff meet children's needs through sensitive and appropriate interactions which promote children's self-esteem. They plan first-hand experiences which enable children to make choices when developing their knowledge, skills and understanding. The children are well settled and they spend their time purposefully in their play and activities. They use opportunities to express their creativity, for example, through use of art and craft materials.

Children show interest in their activities and show very good levels of concentration, particularly when playing with the large board games. They have opportunities to develop new skills and experience challenge, for example, learning to play Kwik Cricket where they learn to take turns, and work together as part of a team. This aids their social development. Staff are friendly and approachable, they give encouragement and appropriate praise. They encourage children to try new activities in a safe and supportive environment.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children understand responsible behaviour and learn to work harmoniously with others. They are developing awareness of their own needs and the needs of others. Staff are knowledgeable and able to identify and assess children with special needs. Staff make an effort to ensure the individual needs of all children in their care are met, and they liaise with parents in order to do this.

Children are well behaved due to the consistency shown in how staff manage children's behaviour, and they abide by the rules of the group. Information is exchanged with parents on an informal basis. However, not all information is made available to parents, in particular most of the policies of the play scheme are not shared with parents.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the organisation of space and resources and these enable children to have a mix of active times where children take part in energetic play and quiet times when they can play large board games. The room is organised to allow for various play opportunities for the children and allows them space to relax. Staff deployment allows children to have some individual attention, although there are no contingency plans in place when qualified staff are not present on the day of inspection. Records on staff details and training are generally kept up-to-date. Documentation is made available for inspection and most procedures and records are in place to keep children healthy and safeguard their welfare. Overall the setting meets the needs of the children who attend.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection numerous actions and recommendations were carried over from the previous year's inspection as not all had been completed. The setting was required to ensure all staff had completed appropriate clearances, all staff have now been appropriately police cleared, and this ensures that children are kept safe. The setting was also required to ensure that strategies were in place with staff obtaining the minimum qualifications, this was generally in place with one exception, and a recommendation is made to ensure contingency plans are put in place to ensure that children are given the appropriate quality of care.

Other recommendations required documentation be put in place. There are now written procedures for uncollected children although not for lost children. There is a complaints procedure in place, and parental consent and a record is kept for the administration of medication. Accidents are recorded and permissions are obtained from parents for the seeking of emergency medical advice or treatment on the registration sheet. These ensure that there are clear arrangements for children to receive suitable attention in the event of an incident.

The setting was asked to ensure that medical knowledge and individual training be provided for staff from a qualified health professional, this has been put in place, and ensures that children are treated appropriately for particular medical conditions. The setting was required to share child protection procedures with parents, this has partly been addressed, but will continue as a recommendation.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they may see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

## **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 that Ofsted is notified of change of manager
- ensure contingency arrangements are in place to meet the fifty per cent qualification requirements of staff
- ensure that there is at least one member of staff with a current paediatric first aid certificate on the premises at any one time
- devise a statement informing parents of procedures if a child becomes lost, and devise and practise emergency evacuations
- ensure that all appropriate policies and procedures for the play scheme are shared with parents.

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)