



Skools Out After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY316558
Inspection date 24 May 2006
Inspector Rebecca Hadley

Setting Address Lea Memorial First School, New Road, Far Forest, Bewdley, Nr. Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY14 9TQ

Telephone number

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Registered person Sara Jane Mountain

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?

Skools Out opened in 2005. It operates from two rooms in Lea Memorial First School in Far Forest. The setting serves the local and surrounding areas.

The setting operates at the following times: 07.45 - 09.00, 15.00 - 18.00 and holidays 08.00 - 18.00. Children can attend for a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. There are currently 70 children on roll.

The group opens 5 days a week all year round.

There are three full time staff who work with the children. Two have early years qualifications to NVQ 2 or 3. One member of staff is working towards an early years qualification. The setting receives support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is effectively promoted as the setting takes positive steps to promote the children's good health and encourages them to begin to take responsibility of meeting their own health needs. Positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures are taken when children are ill so that health needs are met. The children's individual care needs are well met because medical information and details of any allergies are obtained from parents at registration.

The children are well nourished because the setting provides them with regular drinks and snacks such as toast, crumpets, crackers and ham, bagels and pitta breads. Fresh fruit is always available. Children's independence is promoted as staff encourage them to select their own toppings or fillings, spread their own toast and pour their own drinks.

The children enjoy very good opportunities to experience physical activities and develop their skills. They access a range of activities, play team games such as dodge ball and rounders and put up tents which enables them to develop their confidence using a range of equipment. Regular opportunities are provided for all children to have physical play both inside and in the fresh air. Children are able to independently choose when they want to go outside, as outdoor play is available at all times.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are safe as a result of the adult's good awareness of health and safety and of supporting policies and procedures. The provider ensures that proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents and minimise identified risks to children, although their safety is compromised as an in-depth, written risk assessment is not in place.

Children are secure and confident in the well organised club environment. Safety issues are discussed with and understood by the children. Children's awareness of safety issues is continuously developed through every day activities within the setting. For example, children understand about the dangers of running, or kicking a football within the vicinity of other people. Good management of space allows children to play freely, to be active, quiet or rest in accordance with their individual needs. For example, the room is set out into specific areas such as role play, creative, construction, books and an area for children to relax and watch the television.

Children's welfare is promoted and safeguarded due to the staff's sound knowledge and understanding of signs and symptoms of abuse and their awareness of local safeguarding children procedures. They have a good understanding of the indicators of abuse. They can name all four types of abuse and understand that signs may not always be physical such as changes to personality, behaviour or inappropriate play. This ensures that children are well protected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very happy, enthusiastic and confident. They enjoy this time at the end of the day when they can either relax or be active in accordance with their needs and interests. They interact positively with both the staff and their peers, eagerly seeking them out to participate in their activities. For example, during team games. Children are provided with good communication and support from staff which promotes their interest, involvement and learning. They are encouraged to participate in activities and their interest is further stimulated through the staff's knowledge of children's individual needs.

The setting is child orientated, fun, and run specifically to meet the needs of the children who attend. Children respond positively to the praise and encouragement offered to them. They have access to a very good range of interesting and stimulating activities, such as cooking, growing seeds and vegetables, face painting, making tents, trips to the forest, mask making, salt dough, and clay. Children's self-confidence is promoted and they are valued and appreciated by the staff.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are valued and respected and their individual needs recognised and met. Children with individual disabilities are welcomed into the group and activities are adapted to meet their individual needs. Children have access to resources which reflect positive images of culture and disability. This helps to develop children's understanding of a wider world.

Children's behaviour is good. Children are encouraged to develop caring and co-operative relationships through age appropriate behaviour management strategies which include, developing respect for each other. Children are beginning to find solutions to problems and follow simple rules such as playing safely together, being kind and helping each other and learning simple manners.

Relationships with parents are friendly. They are welcomed into the group and staff spend time chatting to them and sharing information about their child. All comments from parents are valued and respected to ensure that children's needs are met. All relevant information such as policies relating to the setting are available for parents to see.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care is enhanced by effective organisation. However, at times the care of the over eights has an impact on the care of the under eights and limits them reaching their full potential. Children's well being and enjoyment is fostered as staff develop their knowledge and understanding by attending additional training courses.

All documentation which contributes to the children's health, safety and welfare is in place and is regularly reviewed. Documentation is safely stored whilst still being accessible in an emergency. Information is regularly shared with parents to ensure continuity in the children's care and there are effective procedures in place for maintaining confidentiality.

The manager is committed to ensuring that children are provided with a high level of care and is constantly looking for ways to move the setting forward. Overall the needs of all the children attending are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

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. There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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):

- develop risk assessments to ensure that children are safe at all times
- ensure that the care provided for children aged over 8 years is not allowed to adversely affect the care provided for children under 8 years old.

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