



Big Adventure After School Club (Brookfield)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	511583
Inspection date	13 March 2006
Inspector	Charlotte Jenkin
Setting Address	Cartwright Drive, Shaw, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 5SB
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Registered person	The Big Adventure Club Limited
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?

The Big Adventure After School and Breakfast Club (Brookfield) opened in 2000. The club occupies premises within Brookfield Primary School with use of the hall, corridor, kitchen, cloakroom and toilets for adults and children. It serves the local area.

There are currently 318 children from 4 to 8 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The group is open during the school term from 08.00 - 08.45 and 15.20 - 17.45.

There are 3 full time staff work with the children. All staff are working towards early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. The setting receives support from Sure Start and Childcare Partnership and is a member of Kids Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in warm, clean premises. Their welfare in the event of an accident or when taking medication is fully safeguarded as all accident and medication records are up to date and accurate. All staff have current first aid certificates and consent is gained for seeking emergency treatment from parents. The sickness policy is formally shared with parents and children who become unwell are cared for appropriately. Children are not, therefore, exposed to unnecessary illness. Children are encouraged to practise good hand washing routines, for example, they wash their hands before eating. Staff have all attended food hygiene courses, and this means they practise good hygiene routines before food preparation. Children are not, therefore, at risk from cross infection.

Children's dietary needs are catered for and are well respected, and these are well shared with staff in the kitchen to ensure children are not exposed to contaminated foods. Staff have attended specialist training for specific medical needs, for example, epi-pen training for allergies. Children are offered a good balance of healthy and nutritious snacks daily. They are encouraged to make healthy choices, as they learn about the different food groups and the effects that these have on their bodies, for example, carbohydrates give them energy. Drinking water is available at the water fountain at all times, and children therefore, have enough fluids throughout the session.

Children have access to a good range of physical activity. They are able to play outside in the playground, and have access to a good range of equipment that helps their development. For example, bats and balls, footballs, tunnels and hoops. Children have plenty of space indoors to move around and do so with confidence. They go for nature walks and are able to explore their local environment.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in mainly safe premises, free from risks. They are able to move around the hall with confidence and play in safety, as staff have identified most potential risks to them and removed them. However, there are some low level sockets which have not been covered, and these pose a risk to the children. The premises are not secure, although staff monitor entry to the hall, children are able to leave unsupervised and strangers are able to enter. Children learn how to keep themselves safe indoors, for example, they know they are not allowed to run around in case they fall and hurt themselves. Children also learn how to keep themselves

safe when walking back from school as staff remind them of road safety issues and to stay close to one another. The fire drill is regularly practised, and this is well monitored to ensure it is effective in keeping children safe in the event of a fire. Children are only collected by authorised adults, and this protects children's personal safety.

Children are cared for in well organised and child-friendly premises. They have plenty of space for play, and are able to choose from a wide range of activities daily. Children are able to freely move around and engage in activities of their choice. They also have access to toys and equipment from the other after school clubs, as these are rotated to give the children greater choice. Children are able to engage in art and craft activities daily, and choose the resources that they wish to use.

Children's welfare is highly likely to be safeguarded in the event of child protection concerns. Staff all have a sound knowledge of child protection issues and the procedures to follow. The group's child protection duties are formally shared with parents and all staff have attended child protection training.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enter the club confidently and appear relaxed and at ease. They are keen to engage in the activities and quickly settle, choosing the activities they wish to participate in, for example, some children went to the computer, others to the marble run. Children spend long periods engaged in their play, enjoying the activities and being well occupied. Children develop good relationships with staff and peers, with all the children playing together co-operatively. They readily approach staff, and play together, laughing and joking, for example, one child was playing snooker with the owner of the club, and told him not to let him win! Children enjoy coming to the club, with favourite activities being arts and crafts. All children participated in making Mother's Day cards and decorating ceramic mugs, then wrapping these up to take home.

Staff plan a good range of activities for the children, with their flexibility allowing children to take the lead in activities and join in should they wish. Children have regular opportunities for art and craft activities, role play, construction, playing games, playing computer games and for physical play. They have weekly opportunities to watch films if they wish, as well as go on nature walks.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children's individuality is well respected in the group as staff know the children well and are able to support their individual needs, for example, special diets and support during activities. Children are able to explore their local environment, with daily walks from school, as well as nature walks. Children have access to activities that teach them about the lives of others, for example, children celebrate Chinese New Year,

make money envelopes and dragon puppets, and learn about the meaning of other cultures and beliefs. This enables them to develop respect for the lives of others. Children develop respect for others, and all children are seen to play co-operatively, regardless of their backgrounds. Although there are currently no children attending the group with special educational needs, staff are well aware of how to support children's individual needs. Children develop good levels of independence and are able to choose the activities they wish to join in with, as well as help themselves to water.

Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff are very good role models to the children and they are respectful to one another and the children attending. They are calm and consistent in their approach to managing children's behaviour, for example, explaining to the children why they should not behave in a particular way, and this helps the children learn right from wrong. The children, therefore, play extremely well together and show respect for others, for example, helping younger children with activities. Children develop good relationships with peers, with children from different schools mixing and playing together well. Staff praise the children for their achievements, and this helps the children to feel good about themselves. They are fully aware of the rules of the group, and adhere to these well, for example, not running in the hall, and not crossing the line in the playground.

Children benefit from the solid partnership with parents, as the staff gain detailed information about their backgrounds and individual needs, and respect these fully. Parents receive comprehensive information regarding the club's policies and procedures, and the activities their children will have access to. Staff exchange information with parents daily regarding their child's well being, including messages from school, and this enables them to offer continuity of care for the children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for by suitable staff, who are all currently on training programmes which will enable them to gain appropriate qualifications in play work. They have also attended short training courses, including, child protection and food hygiene and this enables them to offer the children new care and play opportunities. Staff are well supported by the owners of the club, and this enables them to work well together as a team, in a respectful environment, which sets a good example to the children attending. Staff maintain the required ratios at all times, and this enables them to spend quality time playing with the children, ensuring they are interested and occupied, and to meet their individual needs. Children appear at ease in the relaxed environment, where they play and interact well with both staff and peers.

Induction is detailed and enables staff to know the running of the group, as well as the policies, which are implemented consistently. This enables children's welfare, care and learning to be fully promoted. However, the security of the premises has been overlooked, which puts children's safety at risk. All necessary consents are gained from parents regarding routine activities, and this ensures children are cared for in line with parents' wishes, as well as safeguarding children's well being. All

necessary paperwork is kept, stored securely and available for inspection.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting agreed to ensure that a procedure for the appropriate handling of bullying is included in the behaviour management policy and obtain information with regard to infectious notifiable diseases in order to report effectively to Ofsted.

The club now has detailed information in its first aid file regarding infectious illnesses, and those that need to be reported to Ofsted. This means the staff are aware of their responsibilities in reporting notifiable diseases to the appropriate authorities. The behaviour management policy now contains a procedure for bullying, which acts in the best interests of the children attending.

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 are no complaints to report.

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 children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised and that entry to the building is monitored effectively

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