



Kidzone Childcare Services 2001

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	259691
Inspection date	20 June 2006
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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?

Kidzone Child Care Services opened in 2001 and operates from a mobile building in the grounds of Park Lane School, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire. A maximum of 22 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 15:15 to 18:00 and during the school holidays from 08:00 to 18:00. All children have access to an outside play area.

There are currently 50 children aged from four to 11 years on roll. Children attend from a variety of local schools with space for children from a wider area where transport can be arranged. The club supports children with learning difficulties. There

are no children who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs three members of staff to work with the children and are supported with cover staff from another Kidzone provision. The club is a member of the Cambridgeshire County Council's Network for Out of School Clubs.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean and well maintained environment where they learn the importance of good personal hygiene through consistent daily routines. They know instinctively to wash their hands before and after handling food as well as when visiting the toilet. Therefore ensuring that the risk of spreading germs is kept to a minimum. Staff work to clear policies and procedures which have been devised in relation to health, hygiene, medication and illness. However, a robust procedure is not in place to ensure that all parents sign when their child has had an accident in order to effectively safeguard children's medical welfare. Accidents are dealt with gently and staff display a calm manner which helps to put children at ease.

Children benefit from a healthy diet and enjoy a variety of nutritionally balanced light meals and snacks. They are given a variety of choices, such as fruit and toast with various spreads. Their independence is enhanced as they help to prepare their own snacks and access fresh water or juice from a jug on the side. Procedures are in place to ensure that all snacks and drinks comply with any special dietary requirements to promote children's health and ensure their individual needs are met.

Children have good opportunities to take advantage of the schools outdoor area. They enjoy a range of energetic activities, such as football or roller blading which allows them to enhance their physical skills and develop a positive attitude to exercise. Children have independent choice of whether they would like to play indoors or outdoors, allowing them to fulfil their own needs and interests at the end of the school day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a well organised environment, which is inviting and stimulating. They are able to independently select all activities from a broad range of age-appropriate resources which fully supports their learning and interests.

Children are well protected from risks of accidental injury, as staff are vigilant. They make good use of thorough risk assessments and daily checks to reduce any potential hazards. This ensures children are able to move around freely in their environment. Practices are in place which actively contribute to keeping children safe. For example, frequently practising fire drills and ensuring children wear safety helmets when roller blading. However, the school playground is not completely

enclosed and fencing in certain places is quite low. When all children are inside the main door is unlocked with no clear view of who is approaching. Therefore, managing access to the premises from the public is not always effective. However, children are supervised at all times to ensure they are unable to leave the premises.

Children are well protected because staff have a good understanding of their role in child protection and recognise their responsibility to protect children in their care. They are guided by a comprehensive child protection policy which they are confident to follow and attend regular training to update their knowledge. Children are well protected from the risk of harm, as they are never left alone with people who have not been vetted or released to adults the club have no prior knowledge of.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic when attending and feel very happy and settled in the club's welcoming environment. Staff play a large part in helping children feel relaxed and self-assured through their sensitive and caring approach. A relaxed unstructured atmosphere enables children to unwind after a day at school. They arrive confidently, showing that they are settled and familiar with their routine. They place their coats and bags in the allocated place, wash their hands and sit down for snack. They chat eagerly with their peers and staff about their day at school and discuss topics that interest them.

Children's individual needs are accommodated within the club as they are given equal opportunities to be active, play quietly or simply relax on the comfy seating. Children are stimulated and interested in the activities available and receive good support from staff who show interest in their play, helping them to feel valued. Staff effectively centre activities around children's interests, for example, the world cup where an interesting wall display teaches children about the different countries taking part. Children have also been able to follow the tournament on the television if they so wish. Children's work is attractively displayed around the club helping them to feel valued. They develop a sense of responsibility as they take it in turns to confidently run the club's tuck shop.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children from all backgrounds are fully welcomed into the club and staff value and respect their individuality. Children develop a positive attitude to others and build warm relationships with staff and peers. They allow them to voice their opinions and make informed decisions about where they would wish to play. Children gain a good understanding about the wider world and local community through activities, such as the world cup and Chinese new year. There are a good range of resources which show positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.

Children behave well in the setting. They are kept occupied and motivated at all

times, which contributes to their good behaviour. They understand the rules and routines and receive clear direction and explanations from staff which helps them feel secure. Staff consistently praise children to build their self-esteem and confidence.

Positive relationships between parents and staff have formed, which benefits the children's time at the club. Staff share information verbally on a daily basis, to ensure that parents are kept informed about their child's day. Parents learn about the club's extensive activities through an informative parent's notice board and photographs of their children displayed around the room. Parents are encouraged to attend trips during the school holidays with some taking place at weekends for those that work during the week.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Overall children's needs are met. They feel comfortable and at ease in the well-organised environment. The sensible lay out of the room and use of the outdoor area maximises all available play space for children. Staff are clear in their roles and responsibilities which ensures the smooth running of the setting and promotes children's health and enjoyment. Children are able to move freely and choose where they would like to play, helping to encourage their confidence and independent skills.

Effective recruitment procedures are in place to ensure that staff working with children are appropriately vetted and qualified. Staff show good commitment to updating their knowledge through regular training. Effective policies and procedures are in place and all documentation, except for accident records is clear, concise and up to date. Therefore, overall documentation is effectively used to support the running of the setting and the promotion of children's health, safety and welfare.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider received two recommendations. One relating to improving knowledge of child protection procedures and one regarding suitable storage for outside play equipment. These have both been addressed and have a positive impact on children's welfare.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints to Ofsted 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.

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 parents signatures are obtained within all accident records
- review procedures for gaining access to the premises.

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