



## **Guideposts Trust Fun Club**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY310530
<b>Inspection date</b>	10 April 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Gillian Little

<b>Setting Address</b>	Madleybrook & Springfield School, Cedar Drive, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 1AR
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**Telephone number**

**E-mail**

<b>Registered person</b>	Guideposts Trust
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<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
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<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care
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## 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Guideposts Trust Fun Club opened in 2005 and operates from several rooms in a purpose-built building, known as The Bronze Barrow, on a new housing estate in Witney. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open from 07:30 until 08:45 and from 15:00 until 18:00, Monday to Friday, during term times. It is open from 09:00 until 16:00, Monday to Friday, every week during the school holidays. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 30 children aged from 3 to under 8 years on roll. The club also

provides places for older children. Children come from a wide catchment area. The club currently supports a number of children with a wide range of special needs.

The club employs ten permanent staff; six hold appropriate early years qualifications and three are working towards a qualification. Additional staff are employed for holiday play schemes.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is outstanding.

Excellent procedures are in place to ensure that children receive the best quality care for on-going medical needs. Very detailed registration forms are in place and staff use these effectively to fully meet children's individual needs. Children benefit greatly from the closely established working relationships between staff and community nurses and from staff training for specific medical conditions.

Children receive excellent support from staff to enable them to follow individual dietary needs and preferences. For example, staff are fully aware of dietary needs and the provision is highly pro-active in providing appropriate food and drinks. Specialist training is in place to ensure that children who have specific needs, such as tube feeding, receive the best quality care. Children learn about healthy eating within their capabilities and staff ensure that mealtimes are very relaxed and sociable occasions.

Children thoroughly enjoy and benefit from physical activity as they have free, closely supervised access to the outdoor play space and to the well-equipped sensory room, as well as regular outings to the park and town.

Children's risk of infection is minimal as the premises and equipment are clean, and there are hygienic procedures in place for nappy changing and hand washing. Children who are more able learn about hygiene procedures, such as washing hands before eating or after using the toilet.

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

The provision is good.

Children are able to play comfortably in a suitable environment, which has good facilities and plenty of space for their needs. For example, the sensory room has a ball pit, a hammock swing, coloured moving lights, and music.

Children's risk of injury is minimised as staff assess risks well and take effective precautions to prevent accidents. For example, staff are vigilant and supervise children closely. Children are able to play with a good range of suitable and safe equipment, which staff regularly clean and check for damage. Good fire prevention and evacuation procedures help to keep children safe in the event of an emergency. Children stay safe when away from the premises as staff have effective procedures

in place, such as carrying all necessary medication and personal care equipment.

Children's risk of harm from others is minimised as staff have a good understanding of their roles in child protection. The provision ensures that all persons working with children undergo appropriate checks, but does not hold full evidence of these checks at the day care premises.

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

The provision is good.

Children show a keen interest in what they do and are able to develop a good range of skills, as there is a broad range of activities available. For example, children enjoy painting pottery and baking biscuits at a level appropriate to their abilities. Children engage in challenging free play activities at the breakfast club and after school club, where there is higher proportion of more able children. At the play scheme, where there is a higher proportion of children with special needs, children engage well during free play activities, such as drawing, playing with a train set or watching a video. For children who are more able, however, these activities offer less challenge.

Children are happy and settled as they receive lots of praise and encouragement from staff who are very patient and caring. Children engage in good quality interactions with staff at a level appropriate to their understanding. Children with language difficulties respond well to staff who communicate effectively with them through sign language.

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

The provision is good.

Children benefit greatly from the very inclusive environment developed by the provision. They develop positive attitudes towards disability as they have access to a good range of suitable resources and staff effectively help them to understand each other's needs. For example, in circle time, children have opportunities to learn about tube feeding. Opportunities for children to learn about other differences in society, such as culture and religions, are less apparent.

Children with special needs are able to make good progress as staff ensure they can participate fully in the life of the setting, concentrating on what children can do rather than what they cannot do.

Children learn about responsible behaviour by sharing, taking turns and helping to care for each other. They benefit from the positive, consistent and calm approach by staff to managing behavioural difficulties. They have good opportunities to make choices and to develop independence. For example, staff consult children about toys to purchase for the provision.

Children benefit from good continuity between the home and the provision as staff develop effective partnerships with parents. For example, staff strive continuously to improve the provision through discussion with parents and in obtaining written

feedback.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are able to make good progress as staff have a strong sense of purpose and work well as a team. Good recruitment procedures and a commitment to staff development through on going training ensure that children receive effective levels of care. New staff receive good support through a mentoring system and all staff are regularly monitored by management to ensure that consistent and good quality practice is maintained. High adult to child ratios allow staff to meet children's individual needs effectively. Documentation, policies, and procedures are in place and work well in practice.

The provision 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 made 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 that evidence of criminal records bureau checks are available on the premises
- ensure that children who are more able are sufficiently challenged during free play sessions at the holiday play scheme

- increase resources reflecting positive images of people from different cultural and religious backgrounds.

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)