



## **The Allsorts Club**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	200481
<b>Inspection date</b>	20 June 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Mark Evans
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<b>Registered person</b>	The Allsorts Club
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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?

Allsorts Out of School Club, opened in 1994 and is a voluntary management committee run setting. It is situated in Curdsworth Primary School and operates from a mobile classroom. The school's playgrounds provide enclosed outside play facilities. Children attending are mainly from the school.

There are currently 30 children aged four to 11 years on roll. The setting welcomes and supports children with special needs. The group operates five days per week during term time and sessions are from 07:50 to 08:50 and 15:15 to 18:00.

There are three permanent members of staff who are experienced in child care. The manager has a recognised level 3 childcare qualification and another staff member is working towards a level 3 qualification. Additional contingency staff and volunteers are available.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's well-being is secured through staff having knowledge of appropriate health practices, for example, food safety, hygiene and first aid. The setting has a clear policy for medication arrangements, but has not devised a medication consent and administration record to support this. Children keep healthy because they are cared for in a clean environment, which helps to prevent the 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 toileting and using disposable paper towels.

Children are aware of healthy eating and give examples of eating fruit as important healthy food. Their dietary health is supported by provision of adequately balanced snacks, such as toast with various spreads or fruit. Children's well-being is safeguarded because the setting has suitable awareness of their dietary needs and provides accordingly for this. Children have various drinks including water and are able to request these at any time during their session. This ensures that they are well hydrated and comfortable.

Children continue to develop coordination and control of their bodies through physical games and activities. They enjoy the freedom of outdoor play and benefit from the fresh air and exercise.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have safe and comfortable accommodation for their care and play because the premises are suitably maintained. For example, the room has comfortable flooring and is in a good state of décor. Children are kept safe because staff are vigilant and attentive to children. However, there are some occasions when the premises are not kept secure and when children visit the toilet area without full staff supervision. Staff keep children safe through monitoring visitors to the setting, although they do not keep a record for this. Children have safe use of furniture and resources, which are in suitable condition and staff use practice to reduce most risks, for example, undertaking evacuation practises.

Children's welfare is safeguarded because staff have adequate awareness of child protection issues and procedures for lost or uncollected children. The manager has satisfactory knowledge of the procedures to follow for allegations made against a staff member and the written child protection policy provides supportive information

for this. Children learn about safety and take some responsibility for safe practice. For example, through appropriate behaviour and tidying away activities to keep safe order.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are very well settled and they spend their time involved with activities and games. They use some opportunities to express their creativity, for example, through junk modelling, collage and painting. They enjoy playing games together and work cooperatively and show appropriate social development. Children are confident to explore their environment and they independently select activities they are interested in. Staff talk to them about what they would like to do and where to play, for example, to use activities indoors or outdoors. Children show very good levels of concentration and interest in their activities. Staff involve themselves in some of the children's activities to offer support and interact with them. Children talk to staff about their day, what they have done at school and matters that are significant to them. Staff show interest and value in what the children discuss. Children have sound relationships with adults at the setting and this helps their sense of security and well-being.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are made welcome at the setting and are treated as individuals. They have access to some activities that develop their awareness of people from the wider community. For example, there are planned activities that link to cultural festivals, such as making clay Diya lamps for Diwali. These activities help them to develop awareness of diversity, although the range of play resources for this is not extensive. Children have equal access to toys and activities and experience non-sexist practice.

Children behave very well and respond to staff requests. They talk with staff about appropriate behaviour and agreed rules for the setting. This helps them to take responsibility for suitable behaviour whilst at the club. Children's confidence is supported by staff who encourage and give praise for their achievements and good behaviour. They work harmoniously together when engaging in joint activities and are very cooperative, for example, when playing games that need turn taking and fairness.

Parents receive written details on the setting, which includes policies and procedures. This allows parents to make some informed choices about the care of their child. Although the setting responds to any complaints made, it does not keep a record of evidence to show how this is managed.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children generally benefit from the organisation of space and resources, which allows them to access resources and make some choices and decisions of what to use and play with. The room is organised to allow for different types of play and to allow them space to relax. Staff deployment provides good adult to child ratios and gives children some individual attention. Most written policies and procedures are in place to guide the management of the setting and help safeguard children's welfare. However, the system for vetting new staff is not rigorous and does not ensure suitability to work with children. One member of staff has a level three qualification and another is working towards a level three. Records of staff details and training are held at the setting. Staff are encouraged to attend various training such as first aid and food safety and hygiene so that they have up-to-date knowledge of relevant practices. Overall, the setting meets the needs of the children who attend.

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

At the last Children Act inspection the setting was required to devise a policy for lost children and ensure that there is sufficient documentation for the efficient and safe management of the provision; improve records of activities; improve risk assessment on the premises; comply with fire safety requirements and completion and recording of fire drills; further develop outdoor equipment and resources that promote positive images and ensure that the child protection policy includes details of procedures regarding allegations made against staff.

The setting has devised a policy for lost children to ensure clear guidance and safety; provides basic plans for the children's activity programme and involves them in decisions of what they would like to do; has completed written risk assessments to keep children safe; maintains records for the completion of fire drills; has further developed outdoor equipment and opportunities for outside play so that children can be active and healthy; undertakes some activities that promote children's awareness of diversity and has included details of procedures within the child protection policy regarding allegations made against staff to safeguard children's welfare.

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

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints. 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 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):

- devise record documents for parental consent and administration of medication
- ensure that the premises are secure so that children cannot leave unsupervised; keep a record of any visitors and make sure that children are supervised at all times when visiting the toilet areas
- keep a log of any complaints that relate to the national standards in accordance with Children Act regulations
- make sure that those in employment undergo a rigorous and robust vetting system to ensure their suitability.

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