



Sneakers @ Roman Way (12/03/2004)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY285075
Inspection date	13 June 2005
Inspector	Ann Doreen Burford
Setting Address	Colts Lane, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 0LH
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Registered person	Sneakers Child Care Ltd (4072679)
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?

Sneakers at Roman Way opened in 2004. It operates from one room, partitioned into two areas, in Roman Way First School in the Winyates West area of Redditch. There is an enclosed outdoor play area. This setting is part of a local chain of nurseries and out of school clubs.

The out of school club has 13 children from 4 years to 8 years on roll and all attend Roman Way First School. Children over 8 also attend. The club opens five days a week in term times. Sessions are from 11:20 to 17:45. The club supports a small number of children with special needs.

There are three staff working with the children. Of these, one holds an early years qualification to NVQ level 4. There are two staff members currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to develop a healthy lifestyle. Children's health within the setting is supported appropriately by staff who have a secure knowledge of the club's health and hygiene procedures. Children who become sick are made comfortable and other children are protected from infection. The premises are kept clean and tidy, although there has been a recent burst pipe causing a slight smell of damp. There is a lot of dust in the adjoining playground so staff have been unable to open any windows for fresh air.

An attractive area is created for drinks and snack time. Children are able to help themselves to a choice of drinks throughout the session. Snack time is well arranged so children and staff can sit down together. Children enjoy the snacks so much that it has become a very quiet time as they are so busy eating. They also have many opportunities to try different healthy foods through activities and topics. 'How to make healthy choices' has been a recent topic. As part of the topic children learnt about choosing a healthier option when having a take-away meal. The children helped to create an interesting display as a reminder of what they have learnt.

There are very good outdoor facilities including shaded areas created by trees adjacent to the club room. At present, this is not used frequently as there is an issue about dust causing the children to cough. An alternative outdoor space is sometimes used.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The premises are secure and the outdoor area is fully enclosed. Children are reminded about safe play by vigilant staff. The collection of children is well managed to ensure they are kept safe. Parents and carers are let in by staff and have to sign the children out before leaving.

There is a good range of resources available. Extra resources can be borrowed from other settings within this chain. They are regularly checked for cleanliness and safety. All resources meet safety standards.

The strong commitment to high standards for safety of children includes the management of this chain of out-of-school clubs operating an in-house monitoring system. Each setting has an unannounced visit when a list of safety checks are made on the premises and recorded for future reference. Risk assessments are completed and regularly reviewed.

All staff have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they had concerns about a child. It is mandatory for all staff working in this chain to attend training on child protection.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children and staff have a very good relationship built on respect for each other. Children are well occupied with emphasis being given to the club being a time for children's leisure. The children are frequently involved in decision making about the choice of activities and resources. Questionnaires are regularly used for consultation with the children to ensure the club is meeting their requirements.

There is a good range of well-maintained resources which are used well to interest children and develop their learning. Topics and themes are used to full effect to enable children to develop their skills and participate in a range of interesting activities. They enjoy this time at the end of the school day when they can relax, however there are limited opportunities for them to choose to take part in more active ideas for example dance or physical games.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children learn through their play about equal opportunities. They develop a good understanding of the diverse community through a range of thought-provoking activities. Each child's needs are understood by staff and they are sensitive in their approach to meeting those needs.

Children with extra or special needs are made welcome in the setting. Staff liaise with parents and other professionals to ensure children strive to reach their full potential.

The rules for behaviour management have been written by the children and staff. These are clearly displayed in the room. Children are mostly co-operative in their play as they take turns and share. Strategies are in place to ensure the more popular activities are shared fairly.

A friendly professional relationship with parents is developed by the staff. Parents are regularly consulted to enable their wishes to be identified and, if possible, how they can be met. As a result, children are cared for according to their needs. Staff use questionnaires as part of their consultation with parents. Newsletters are also used to keep parents informed about the setting.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The setting has high aims and values. This is achieved by the strong commitment of

the management to encourage all staff to access ongoing relevant training to develop their own skills as well as further developing the childcare. The manager is currently completing a NVQ level 3 course in playwork. The setting is participating in a quality assurance scheme 'Aiming High' level three.

All the required documentation is well organised and readily available. The policies and procedures are written in line with the aims and objectives of this chain of out-of-school clubs for after school care, but they do not reflect the wrap-around care of the younger nursery children and extended hours of opening.

The needs of all children are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

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):

- review the policies and procedures to ensure they reflect the care of the younger children and extended hours
- improve the opportunities for children to access fresh air and participate in physical play.

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