



Fun 4 Kidz - Farnborough Road

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY265343
Inspection date	27 July 2006
Inspector	Frank William Kelly
Setting Address	Farnborough Road School, Farnborough Road, Southport, Merseyside, PR8 3DF
Telephone number	
E-mail	fun4kidzclubs@hotmail.com
Registered person	Fun 4 Kidz
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Fun 4 Kidz Out of School Club at Farnborough Road has been registered since July 2003 and is one of six settings operated by an organisation.

It is mainly based within the detached dining room building of a school. Children access the toilets in the junior school building and on occasions may use the school halls in both the infant and junior school buildings. There is a semi enclosed outside play area. The school is situated in the residential area of Birkdale, near Southport. A maximum of 48 children may attend the setting at any one time. The setting provides care for a number of children with additional needs and there are currently 90

children aged from four to ten years on roll. Children come mainly from the local area.

The breakfast and after school club operates each weekday during term time from 08.00 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 17.30 with holiday care Monday to Friday from 08.30 to 17.30.

The club employs 12 members of staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications and five are working towards a qualification. The setting holds an "Aiming High" quality assurance award.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The registered organisation has devised many good policies and procedures that reflect the importance of good hygiene practice and help prevent the spread of infection. These are shared with staff and on a daily basis most are implemented appropriately. The playrooms are cleaned to an acceptable standard and the toilet areas are well stocked with ample supplies of tissue, soap and paper towels to meet the children's needs and support their independent personal hygiene practices. However, some cleaning schedules, such as those for the fridge are not followed with sufficient frequency. Outside rubbish bins holding discarded food waste and other garbage have not been emptied from the previous week. Thus, children's health and well-being are compromised.

Good procedures for dealing with accidents and minor injuries are in place, which help keep the children safe and well. All staff have completed recognised first aid training, and they understand the importance of keeping appropriate records that are shared with parents. The sick children policy clearly identifies how children are to be cared for should they be ill or become unwell whilst at the setting. Staff sensitively care for children that are unwell; they sit with them in a quiet and comfortable area until they can be collected by their parents.

Children are encouraged to attend to their personal hygiene as staff encourage them to wash their hands before snacks or after visiting the toilet. However, the only hand washing facilities are in the toilets, which are situated in another of the school buildings. Therefore, the children's opportunities to spontaneously wash their hands is restricted. At present no alternatives for cleaning hands have been considered, thus, children do not have the means or the opportunity to clean their hands following activities, such as outdoor or messy play.

Children enjoy good opportunities for regular outdoor play and vigorous exercise where they can run round, raise their heart rate and build their stamina. Everyday, weather permitting children play outside with a wide range of equipment, such as bats, balls, and hoola hoops. Regular team games including football are enjoyed and on very hot days, such as those of the inspection, well supervised and fun filled water fights are enthusiastically participated in. The well planned craft and creative activities provide children with good opportunities to practise and develop their small

muscle skills and hand to eye coordination.

Fresh drinking water is available at all times and staff ensure that children take in extra fluids during their snacks and meals times, talking with and helping the children to understand the importance of keeping themselves hydrated at all times. Good systems are in place for sharing information about the children's individual dietary needs and preferences. Staff are knowledgeable about the individual children's needs and take account of these whilst planning the snack menus. Children attending the play scheme bring their own packed lunches, which the setting ensures they are stored appropriately. Children are offered a satisfactory range of snacks that include some healthy options, such as fresh fruit and toast. Projects about healthy living are helping the children to understand the importance of healthy eating and to think more carefully about their choices of drinks and snacks.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment that is welcoming and adequately maintained. Staff provide a warm welcome to the children and visitors, which means that children settle quickly and are relaxed within their environment. The play areas are spacious and provide children with safe freedom of movement. There is plenty of functional furniture, which meets the needs of the numbers of children cared for and enables the children to play and relax as they wish. Children have access to and play with, a wide range of good quality, safe and suitable toys and resources.

On a day to day basis children are kept safe as they are well supervised and the procedures for restricting access to the premises are implemented consistently by the staff. During outdoor play staff position themselves so that they can monitor where the children are playing and identify any unknown visitors on approach. Additional staff are always employed so that children can be escorted safely to the toilets and other areas of the premises, which are situated away from the main area of care. Children's risk of accidental injury indoors and out is minimised as full risk assessments have been completed and staff undertake a daily premises check prior to the children arriving. Children know and understand the safety rules within the setting, and follow them well, such as not running indoors or picking up equipment off the floor. Staff actively encourage the children to take responsibility for ensuring that they have applied their sunscreens regularly throughout the day. Clear procedures are in place for taking children on outings. These include risk assessments, route planning and ensuring parental consents have been obtained. Staff regularly practise the fire evacuation procedure, helping the children to become aware of what to do in the event of an emergency. However, one fire exit continues to be secured by keys whilst children are present and the attendance records were inaccurate on the morning of the inspection. This means that in the event of an emergency children's safety and welfare are compromised.

The children's welfare regarding child protection is suitably safeguarded as there is a clear child protection policy and a designated child protection coordinator. Many of

the staff have completed relevant training and all staff are able to demonstrate a sound understanding of the steps they need to take and the procedures to follow to safeguard children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

On a daily basis staff provide the children with a very good range of interesting activities that stimulate and help the children to develop their skills. Everyday children have access to books, role play, table games, and larger more active activities, such as snooker. Children play well, they are busy and fully engaged throughout their day. Staff show interest in what the children are doing and interact with them to help enhance and extend their play. For example, two boys playing with the police officer helmets were encouraged to build their own police station. Over a two day period the boys were fully immersed in creating cameras and monitors from a range of recycled and craft materials. They set up their station in a corner of the room, where they make lots of dens, and competently use the computer to create a sign warning others that closed-circuit television (CCTV) is in operation'. A group of girls were busy creating their own magazine on the computer. A wide range of articles have been written including records of interviews with some of the children attending the club. Others enjoy being with their friends as they move freely throughout the building. Role play is extended to the outdoors and children enjoy playing with the cooking utensils or chatting with their friends whilst sitting in the shade of the trees.

The positive adult praise and display of children's art work promotes the children's confidence and self-esteem. Adult interactions are warm and friendly, and children are invited on a regular basis to contribute and share ideas about what activities they would like or what interests them. Club rules, and agreed behaviour, are written up and displayed throughout the setting. Thus, children have an informed understanding about what is right and wrong. There is a real sense of fun and children engage in good natured banter with both the staff and their peers. Older children joke that 'chocolate is good for you as its has lots of milk in it'. They are relaxed, enjoying talking and chatting with the staff and show pride in their club. They tell visitors they love the club and ask them if they also like it.

Staff plan well for the summer play scheme. A full programme of outings and activities are planned, which include trips into the local community and further afield, such as Camelot theme park or the Museum in Liverpool. Activities and projects are linked to themes with an aim to enhance the children's current knowledge and understanding of a diverse range of subjects including recycling, African week, and emotions. The organisations links to other community projects, such as the community sports coaches, which means that children are offered further opportunities to learn a new sport or improve current techniques and skills in games, such as tennis.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated with equal concern and their individual needs are well met. This is because staff obtain and record relevant information from parents and have a good understanding of equal opportunities issues. On a daily basis, all children have good access to the full range of activities where they can self select and follow their own interests. Good quality resources, such as posters, books, dolls and jigsaws provide children with positive images that reflect the diversity within today's society. Regular projects and fun craft activities linked to celebrations, such as writing Chinese symbols and learning how to say, 'Happy New Year' in Chinese, are successfully helping children gain an insight into other similarities and differences.

The organisation is committed to providing inclusive care. Arrangements for supporting children with additional needs are very good. Effective systems have been devised so that staff are able to work with parents and other relevant parties, ensuring that appropriate action can be taken to promote the welfare and development of any children with additional needs. Staff receive a range of regular training linked to inclusive play, and implement this well in practice so that children are fully included, well supported and able to participate fully in all aspects of the club.

Children are well behaved and staff present positive role models, they are calm and consistent in using good praise and encouragement to reinforce the children's good behaviour. This creates a positive environment within which the children respond and mirror their behaviour well. There is a very caring feel to the setting. The children attending the setting demonstrate a good understanding of right and wrong and interact with their peers and the adults present with much respect and courtesy. Older children sensitively care and look after younger children who have only recently started attending the play scheme. For example, on several occasions different older boys were observed to take the time to help the same younger child throughout the day. This included lifting him up so he could sit alongside them on the low wall, inviting him to sit with them for lunch, and inserting his straw into his foil drink pouch.

Children benefit from the positive partnership with parents that staff have developed. Information is shared through well written information about the setting, notice boards, regular newsletters and daily discussion. Parents are greeted warmly when dropping off and collecting their children and welcomed into the club at all times. Parents of children attending the play scheme receive a detailed information pack that provides good information about the planned activity program, trips, safety, meals and snacks, and extra activities, such as the sports coaches and circus skills.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Overall the organisation of the setting benefits the children in a positive manner. The registered organisation is committed to improving the outcomes for children and the quality of care it provides. A high percentage of the staff hold relevant childcare qualifications and an organisational commitment to provide all staff with additional training opportunities, means that children receive an interesting and varied range of activities and experiences. Grouping and staffing of the children is well thought out so

that the children are cared for by consistent and familiar adults. Thus, children are settled, secure and have a good sense of belonging.

There is a comprehensive range of policies and procedures, although, some of those reflecting the amendments to the National Standards in October 2005 have not been formalised. At present the setting does not have written procedures for the reporting of notifiable diseases or what to do in the event of two or more children having food poisoning. Induction and staff appraisal systems are in place and implemented, however, at present the lack of a secure management tracking system means that some staff do not follow the procedures in a consistent manner. Thus, compromising the quality of some aspects of the children's care and well-being.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting agreed to three recommendations, which included revising the system for securing fire exits, the grouping and key workers systems for children attending play scheme, and the resources available to the children that promote diversity and equality of opportunity.

Since then, the setting has made some good progress towards improving the outcomes for children by providing children with good quality resources, such as dolls, books and jigsaws that reflect positive images of today's society, helps children gain positive attitudes to others, and challenge stereotyping of culture, disability, religion and gender. Children attending the play scheme are now allocated a daily key worker so that they know who to go to, should they need reassurance or want help.

The setting has taken some action to address the issue regarding the fire exit door at the far end of the setting by fitting it with a sliding bolt so in theory this exit can easily be opened in cases of emergency. However, staff continue to secure the door by using the key operated mechanisms. Thus, issues to children's safety as discussed under the staying safe outcome of this report, continue to have implications on the children's safety and require further action.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the previous inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaint 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):

- provide children with suitable alternatives for hand cleaning when access to the washroom facilities is not practical or possible
- formalise the procedures for reporting notifiable diseases, as defined by the Health Protection Agency, and those for notifying Ofsted of any incidences of food poisoning affecting two or more children who are looked after on the premises
- devise and implement a management tracking system to ensure that staff are implementing policies and procedures in a safe and consistent manner, such as the method for securing fire exits, recording children's attendance and reporting and dealing with identified hazards including rubbish removal.

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