



## Crawshawbooth After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	309205
<b>Inspection date</b>	26 September 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Jannet Mary Richards
<b>Setting Address</b>	The Village Centre, Adelaide Street, Crawshawbooth, Rossendale, BB4 8PW
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<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?

Crawshawbooth After School Club operates from within The Village Community Centre. The premises are situated in the centre of Crawshawbooth, an area which is within easy access of Rawtenstall town centre. The group has been registered since 1992, it is run by a private individual. The club offers an after school facility for children attending the Crawshawbooth Primary School. Children are collected from school, on foot, by the after school staff.

The group has sole use of the building during the hours that it operates. The facilities available include two large play areas, toilet facilities a kitchen/café area and office space.

The setting opens Monday to Friday, term time only from 15.15 to 18.00. A number of children attending are over the age of eight years.

The club is a member of the Kids Club Network.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean environment which promotes their health generally well. The children follow good hygiene practices as part of the daily routine, washing their hands before snack, for example. The staff provide liquid soap and paper towels, and check that the children have washed their hands thoroughly to reduce any risk of spread of infection. One member of staff has completed basic food hygiene training and has experience of food preparation in order to ensure that food is prepared according to good practices. The staff have previously attended first aid training and have a suitable awareness of how to deal with accidents. However, their certificates have expired and they have not attended refresher training to ensure that their knowledge is up to date.

The children enjoy a variety of snacks each evening, they often help to prepare popular foods such as 'rainbow toast'. There are some healthy options, such as fruit, though these are not offered on a daily basis to the children to encourage healthy eating. The children have free access to fresh drinking water at all times to ensure that they are adequately hydrated.

The children have some good opportunities to develop healthy lifestyles. They often play in the local park after school, or use the large basement room for group games to develop their physical skills and enjoy exercise.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The out of school club provides a safe and suitable environment for children. Children are made to feel welcome, their artwork is displayed around the room and they have space to keep their belongings. They can access a wide range of age-appropriate toys and equipment. They choose what they want to play with and generally help themselves, or ask staff to reach the toys which are on high shelves. This allows them choice and independence in their play.

The staff give good regard to safety practices to keep the children safe. They check the room for hazards each day and supervise the children well. The premises are safe and secure for children. Fire drills are rehearsed regularly to ensure that children are aware of emergency procedures. When the staff collect the children from school they follow the agreed rules, such as walking in single file with staff at the front and rear of the line to keep them safe near the main road. There are a lack of written procedures, however, for assessing and minimising the risks to children.

The staff have a satisfactory awareness of child protection issues and procedures in order to safeguard the welfare of children. They do not currently have a procedure to follow in the event of an allegation against a member of staff, however, in order to ensure that children are fully safeguarded.

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

The provision is good.

Children thoroughly enjoy attending the out of school club. The staff treat the children with kindness and respect. Relationships between the adults and children are very good. Children are encouraged to be independent and are supported very well by the staff when needed. They are asked for their views and choices and their wishes are respected. This leads to the children being confident, happy and settled in the club.

The children enjoy a wide range of enjoyable activities which are appropriate for their ages and interests. They can choose from the wide selection of toys, activities and books, or just relax and watch television if they wish. They have the choice of quiet or lively activities, as they have use of the large basement room for physical games in addition to the play room. The children enjoy using their imagination as they play, making dens with large sheets, or collage pictures to display or take home, for example. The staff also plan some specific activities, usually based on themes, such as making lavender bags. The range of activities and positive relationships formed lead to a very popular club which the children clearly value and enjoy.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The children behave well in the out of school club. They respond very well to the frequent praise and encouragement they receive from the staff. The children are encouraged to respect each other as they play with the toys and resources. They have some opportunities to learn about and value differences as they have access to books and some toys which reflect race, culture, gender and disability. Children's individual needs are met suitably as staff discuss and agree the children's needs with parents. They have some experience of caring for children with specific needs and the premises are accessible and welcoming to all. The written information relating to special needs and behaviour management does not clearly reflect the childcare practices.

The relationships between parents, carers and staff are very positive. Parents are made to feel very welcome as they arrive to collect their children. The staff exchange information with them informally, through discussion, to ensure that they are well informed. In addition there is some useful information for parents displayed on a notice board.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The children benefit from the generally effective organisation of the out of school club. They are cared for in a safe and suitable environment where they can relax and enjoy themselves after school. The staff team have worked together for many years, providing a very consistent and stable environment for the children. They work very well together to ensure that each session runs smoothly.

The documentation relating to the care of the children is suitably maintained, however, some of the policies and procedures do not reflect or inform the child care practices, and are therefore limited in value as working documents.

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

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

At the time of the last inspection two areas were identified for further development. Since that time the staff have revised the procedures for children to access drinking water. A large jug of water and cups are placed on a low table at each session and children can help themselves to water at any time. This has improved the accessibility of water and ensures that children are adequately hydrated. The staff have also increased the range of books available for the children which has led to an improvement in the opportunities for them to read and enjoy books.

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

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- review the range of snacks provided to include more healthy options and encourage the children to eat healthy foods
- ensure that staff access training in first aid and that at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate is on the premises at all times
- review the policies and procedures to reflect the current practices, in particular; behaviour management, special needs, procedures for escorting children from school and procedures in the event of an allegation against a member of staff.

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