



## **St. James's Out of School Club**

Inspection report for early years provision

**Unique Reference Number** 303822

**Inspection date** 08 September 2006

**Inspector** Shaheen Matloob

**Setting Address** St James Church, Church Lane, Mytholmroyd, West Yorkshire, HX7 6DS

**Telephone number** 07876 056 416

**E-mail**

**Registered person** St. Jamies's Out of School Club

**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](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.
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### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St James' Schools Out opened in 1995. It operates from the upper room of St James' Church in Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge. The club serves the local community and is managed by a committee. The majority of the children who attend are from Hebden Royd School. Children from the wider community are also welcome.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. Currently there are 47 children from three to 11 years on roll. Children attend on a sessional basis. The club opens weekdays during term time only. Sessions are from 7.45 to 08.45 and 15.00 to 18.00.

Two permanent members of staff work with the children. Both have relevant early years qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children are protected from illness through established daily routines and gentle reminders by staff to encourage children to wash their hands in order to prevent the spread of infection. Clear documentation and effective procedures ensure the good health and hygiene of children. Children have a good understanding of personal health and recognise the importance of hand washing. For example, they know that they must wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet otherwise, they will get germs on their food, which will make them poorly. Accident records and first aid arrangements meet requirements and protect children. A clear illness management policy excludes children who are sick in order to protect others from illness and infection.

Children have access to a spacious environment where they are able to practise and develop their physical skills. They use an exciting range of large physical equipment and games which, contribute greatly in enhancing their co-ordination, mobility and gain control. Children have a secure understanding of healthy living. They know that they need 'to run about and exercise, which makes you thin.' Children know that exercise is tiring and thirsty work and that they need to have a drink and a nap afterwards. Children recognise the effect of exercise on their bodies and know that their heart beats faster. Children have access to a designated comfortable area and are able to rest according to their needs.

Children are well-nourished. Staff and children recognise that healthy eating is an important factor, which contributes towards a healthy lifestyle. Children benefit from a range of snacks that are healthy and nutritious. Children have a detailed knowledge of the nutritional value of food, such as carrots, which 'have vitamins and make you see in the dark' and how 'cola is nice but bad for your teeth'. Clear records indicate children's dietary needs which staff take notice of. Mealtimes are a relaxed occasion, where children eat at their own pace, enjoy their food and staff maximise opportunities for social interaction.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a suitably safe and secure environment where adequate risk assessment and daily checks ensure their safety. This means that children are able to move freely and reasonably safely within the setting. However, some electricity sockets are unsafe and easily accessed by children. Children have a good understanding of fire safety. They clearly describe the procedure and know that when the whistle blows, they must line up and go outside. They know that they must not

return to the building because they might get hurt.

Children use a good range of stimulating and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment, which sustain their interests and offer suitable challenges. Toys and resources are checked regularly to ensure that they remain safe and prevent later accidents. Children learn to keep themselves and others safe as they take responsibility for tidying up after themselves. Effective security arrangements ensure that children are escorted from school by staff and only released in the care of persons authorised to collect them.

Children are protected because staff recognise their roles and responsibilities to ensure children are safeguarded and that the protection of children is their first priority.

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

The provision is good.

Children are content and settled in the welcoming and friendly environment. Children relate well with staff and each other as they happily play together. Children play an active part in the setting. They enjoy making decisions about their activities and care, becoming confident to explore and investigate play opportunities. Older children show care and concern for younger children as they help them to take part in activities. For example, older children pick younger children up to help them to put counters in a game.

Children are interested in a suitable range of developmentally appropriate activities which support their learning and development. Children develop art and craft skills as they learn how to mix paints and recognise various colours. Older children use their skills to draw characters from well known animations. Children use small construction to build and connect pieces to make jumbo jets. They spend good quality time, concentrating on the task and once finished they are able to fly them around the room. Children have a good understanding of technology as they competently use a computer and joy pad to play games. They develop good negotiating skills as they take turns and other children wait patiently until it is their turn.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff ensure that all children are valued and included in the life of the setting as they endeavour to challenge discrimination in all areas. Staff ensure that children are respected and have the right to be treated with courtesy at all times and their views listened to. Children benefit from a range of resources that positively represent children who attend as well as individuals from the wider community. Adequate planned activities help children to learn about the wider society, such as celebrating Chinese New Year. However, these resources and activities are limited in their availability for children. The staff have a reasonable understanding of special needs although, the setting does not have a special needs policy in place.

Children are generally well behaved, and polite in response to the expectations of staff. Children have a reasonable understanding of good behaviour and the difference between right and wrong. They know that if they are disruptive they will be provided with an explanation about acceptable behaviour. Staff manage children's behaviour using positive strategies that promote their welfare and development. Children develop self esteem through praise and encouragement. Children are encouraged to work together harmoniously and where possible resolve conflict and find solutions without adult intervention. This means that children are able to behave in a responsible manner and promote their self-worth.

Children have their individual needs met by staff who work well in partnership with parents. Children clearly benefit from this relationship as they have positive relationships with staff and other children. Parents receive suitable information about the setting and regular newsletters keep them up to date of any events and changes. Parents are kept informed about their child's activities through daily verbal communication, displays and photographs, to promote continuity of care.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff have a secure understanding of child development and a good regard for the well-being and care of children. Staff organise space and resources to enable children to self select and make informed choices about their play. Required adult-child ratios and good levels of care and supervision ensure that children are supported in their play and learning.

Legally required documentation is available, organised and maintained to an adequate standard. However, attendance records do not show the hours of attendance for children and staff and previous action regarding the special needs policy has not been addressed. 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 club was asked to improve documentation regarding special needs and children's health in order to promote children's welfare. The club no longer administers medication, therefore, it does not require written parental consent to administer medication or to keep a record of this. The club has not devised any documentation regarding the care of children with learning difficulties and or disabilities and this remains outstanding.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since April 1 2004 there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards. 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):

- ensure that electrical sockets are made safe and inaccessible to children
- ensure that the attendance records include times of arrival and departure for children and staff
- extend the range of resources that promote equality and increase children's knowledge of diversity
- devise a special needs policy which is in line with current legislation and guidance.

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