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Schools Out

Inspection report for early years provision

Better education and care

Unique Reference Number Inspection date Inspector	EY320674 19 July 2006 Permjit Tanda
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Registered person	Dorothy Dixon
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?

Schools out After School Club opened in 2006. It operates from Holy Trinity Church of England Junior and Infant School in Handsworth, Birmingham. Facilities include use of two classrooms and an enclosed outside play area. There are local shops and a park within walking distance. The club serves school pupils only.

The club is open five days a week term time only. It offers a breakfast club from 08:00 to 09:00 and an after school service from 15:30 to 18.00.

Two staff work directly with the children of whom both have an appropriate early

years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff follow appropriate procedures and practices which meet the children's health needs. A member of staff holds a current first aid certificate and is always on duty therefore the children's welfare is promoted. They adopt adequate hygiene practices to prevent the spread of infection for example, cleaning tables before and after snacks. Children learn the importance of personal hygiene through washing their hands before their meal and after using the toilet.

There is a sufficient range of small outdoor equipment available for children to explore, test and develop physical control through resources such as various sized balls, bats, rackets, hoops and skipping ropes. Children enjoy outdoor play because staff spend their time purposefully playing with the children.

Children after school are provided with substantial quantities of food and regular drinks, for example, on arrival they receive a drink of squash or water and biscuits. The varied tea menu includes options such as pasta bake, noodles, sandwiches, chips and nuggets throughout the week. Healthy options such as fresh fruit are also made available and therefore children begin to gain an understanding about healthy eating habits. Breakfast includes a selection of low sugar cereals, various toppings on toast and a hot drink.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Risks of accidental injury to children are minimised because staff supervise the children well. The developing risk assessments help staff reduce potential hazards. Staff have an appropriate understanding of how to achieve a balance between freedom and setting safe limits. This allows children to learn some sense of danger and knowledge about how to protect themselves from harm. For example, children know they are not able to open the inner playground gates.

Children use a satisfactory range of toys and equipment which are appropriate and safe. Resources are well organised and easily accessed by the children.

Children are protected by staff that have a satisfactory understanding of child protection issues and are able to implement the policies and procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The session is well organised with a clear routine and therefore children enjoy their

time at the club. They achieve well because staff are skilled and use their understanding of how to promote play and learning creatively. Children are happy and eager to participate. Close and caring relationships increase children's sense of trust and help them develop a strong sense of self.

Children benefit from a good range of activities such as art and design, creative and imaginative play, indoor and outdoor physical activities. They are independent and self-select activities. They show good levels of involvement in their play, for example, a group of children eagerly set out a shop using tables, pretend food and the cash register. Other children play with dolls dressing their hair with support from an adult. Children experience using different creative techniques and competently use various materials and tools. For example, children have been making stained glass pictures, masks, box and clay models. Children increase their independence by deciding what they would like to do and make good use of what is made available. Children play in groups and cooperate well whilst playing bar football and pool. They have opportunities for quiet time and rest, during the session children are able to relax in front of the television and play with the play station. Some children thoroughly enjoy using felt pens to create their own designs on paper.

Children participate enthusiastically because staff interact well with children and are interested in what the children say and build on their interests easily. Staff create a calm and happy environment for children to play and extend their own learning.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have some opportunities to learn about themselves, each other and the world around them through planned activities. Children have been involved in celebrating various festivals including Diwali through making dough lamps. Children have access to a moderate range of resources depicting positive images of diversity. Staff know how to adapt the environment and activities for children with special needs.

Staff adopt a positive approach to behaviour management therefore children are well-behaved and understand what is expected of them. They benefit from set consistent boundaries which helps them learn right from wrong and to take responsibility for their own behaviour.

Parents are made welcome on arrival and staff make time to talk to them. Parents are generally kept well informed about the club through written information at induction and the use of the notice board. Children benefit from the involvement of their parents in projects, which contribute to their well being at the club.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children feel safe and at ease in the environment. They benefit from a broad range of

toys and activities in an organised space. Staff are attentive to the needs of the children and know them well.

Most of the legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place but were not available on the day of inspection. The record of medication administered to children and parent's written consent for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment is not in place. The record of attendance is in place but not always completed accurately. These impact on the children's safety and welfare.

The staff team are acceptably inducted and supervised. There is some commitment from the staff team to improvement and development of the club. They regularly monitor and adapt the service they provide through consultation with parents. The satisfactory quality of the provision means that the club meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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):

- ensure a written record of all medicines administered to children, signed by parents is maintained
- obtain written parental permission to seek any emergency medical advice or treatment

- ensure the daily record of the children's attendance is completed accurately and up to date
- ensure all records are always available for inspection by the early years childcare inspector.

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*