



Redwood Kids Holiday Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspector Susan Hoult

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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?

Redwood Kids Holiday Club has been registered since 2000. It is run by a voluntary management committee. The club operates from Redwood Drive Primary School in Waddington, Lincolnshire. The large hall, playground and playing field are regularly used. Occasionally the smaller hall and a classroom are used.

The club opens each weekday after school from 15:05 until 18:00. Sessions during the holidays are from 08:30 until 17:00. The club runs every half term holiday, one week at Easter and the first three weeks of the summer holidays. It is closed in the Christmas holidays. The after-school provision offers care to children attending the

school whilst the holiday provision serves the local area and beyond.

The club is registered to care for 32 children aged from three to under eight years at any one time, children aged up to 11 years also attend. There are currently 121 school-age children on roll of whom 60 are aged under eight years. The club currently supports children with learning difficulties and children who speak English as an additional language.

There are seven staff who work with the children regularly. Of these, three have appropriate qualifications and three are working towards a qualification. The club receives support from the Lincolnshire Early Years and Childcare Development Partnership. The club is a member of 4Children and achieved its 'Growing in Quality' accreditation award in 2004.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's good health is promoted well by staff who effectively follow the provision's health, hygiene and sick children policies and procedures. There is always at least one member of staff present who holds a current first aid certificate so that any accidents are dealt with effectively. Children have a good understanding about the importance of following hygiene routines and take the initiative in washing their own hands after using the toilet and before baking activities and eating. Children are able to rest on cushions in the comfortable book area.

Staff meet children's dietary and health needs effectively by sharing information with parents and recording any allergies a child may have. Children gain a good understanding of healthy eating through activities and discussion promoted by staff. A variety of snacks are provided including fresh fruit. Parents are encouraged to use ice packs in lunch boxes for those children who attend during the holidays to maintain food at an appropriate temperature.

Children have to take part in physical activities that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They have a positive attitude to exercise, enjoying both structured and free physical play in the school grounds whenever the weather is suitable. Children have fun whilst developing their large muscle skills and hand eye co-ordination, by using bikes, go-carts, negotiating obstacle courses and joining in parachute games and a variety of ball games including football and hockey.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children feel secure and confident in the club environment which is clean and well maintained. They benefit from using the spacious school hall and grounds which are available for most sessions. The layout of the large hall is easily adapted to allow different activities to be provided safely for example, large physical play activities in

inclement weather. Children use a wide range of clean, stimulating and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment many of which are freely accessible to them.

The risk of accidental injury to children is minimised through staff's well organised checking routines, the active supervision of children and the effective use of risk assessments. Good procedures are in place after school to ensure young children are collected from their area of the school by club staff and that there is always a member of staff in the hall to receive older children. Children learn to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe through the staff giving clear explanations of why certain activities or actions may be dangerous for example, children are asked not to run in the hall in case they fall and hurt themselves.

Children are safeguarded because vigilant procedures are in place to prevent unauthorised entry to the school. Clear records indicate who may collect a child. Children are well protected by staff who attend relevant training, have a good awareness of child protection procedures and know how to put these into place should they have concerns about the welfare of a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy meeting with friends in a relaxed, welcoming environment. They are happy, enthusiastic and self-assured. Children comment that although they are still in the school building the atmosphere is different and therefore they do not feel they are still in school. Staff work hard to reinforce this. Children benefit from being able to decide whether they wish to be active or relax and to organise their own time and are fully occupied throughout sessions.

Staff plan activities to capture children's interest and enable them to develop their skills and learning. Children often play a part in planning sessions by telling staff what they would like to do or by putting messages in the suggestion box. Children use the computer freely and develop imaginative play scenarios with a variety of resources. For example, a group of children enjoy being 'hairdressers and clients' whilst another group have fun playing with an aircraft carrier and other vehicles. Children happily play board games together and the pool table is well used with children taking turns well. Children enthusiastically make scones in a baking activity lead by a visiting representative from a supermarket chain. They work hard to knead the dough correctly and answer questions well. Children are enthralled as they learn how to make different coloured smoothies and discover how diverse the tastes and textures are. Other visitors to the club include a clown who teaches children circus skills and does a magic show and a person who helps children design and make three dimensional tiles. A child proudly describes the footballer tile they have made.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children and staff relate well to each other, sharing a mutual respect. Staff enable children to make choices, decisions and voice their opinions which helps develop their self-esteem, confidence and sense of belonging. Outings, visitors from the local community and a variety of topics covering other cultures and countries help support children's increasing understanding of the wider world. Children who have learning difficulties or speak English as an additional language are fully involved in all aspects of the club. However, none of the staff have attended specific training relating to caring for children who have additional needs and therefore their experiences and learning may not always be fully developed.

Behaviour is good. Children of all ages work and play co-operatively together with older children helping the younger children as needed. Staff are good role models and are consistent in their positive approach to behaviour management, therefore children understand what is expected of them.

Children benefit from the good relationships staff have with parents. Parents are positive about the care their children receive and the variety of activities they enjoy.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care is enhanced by the club's efficient organisation and the high regard staff have for the well-being of all children. Policies and procedures are detailed and reflect the good practice that is in place. Records are maintained accurately and are shared with parents to ensure continuity of care. Although adequate recruitment and vetting procedures are in place they are not rigorous.

The manager leads the well motivated staff by example to provide good quality care for the children. Clear aims and objectives, a good induction process for new staff, regular committee and staff meetings, appraisals and training ensure that children are cared for by staff who are enthusiastic, knowledgeable and clear about their individual roles. This results in a happy, committed staff team who work well together to create a happy atmosphere where children can relax after school and during the holidays. Children feel secure and develop a strong sense of their own self-worth through the effective deployment of staff with whom they have warm, friendly relationships.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to continue to develop the key worker system and ensure children can easily access drinks. The key worker system has been developed to include documentation to ensure everyone is aware of who is the key worker for each child which improves relationships within the club. Water and fruit squash is available for children to help themselves to throughout every session ensuring they do not become thirsty.

Complaints since the last inspection

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

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:

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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):

- increase staff's knowledge and understanding of working with children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- further develop recruitment procedures to ensure they are rigorous.

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