



Queen Eleanors After School Care

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY257536
Inspection date	19 September 2006
Inspector	Maureen Croxford
Setting Address	Queen Eleanors Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 7SD
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Registered person	Hoptune Ltd
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?

Queen Eleanors After School Club operates from premises within Queen Eleanors School, Onslow Village, Guildford, Surrey. Children attend the club from this school and the nearby Onslow Primary School. There are currently 43 children on roll of whom 13 are under eight years of age.

Children can attend for a variety of sessions. Evidence suggests that children who have learning difficulties, physical disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language are welcomed into the group.

The group opens Monday to Friday during school term times only. Sessions are from 15.00 until 18.00.

The group is privately owned but a manager is employed to have the day-to-day responsibility of running the club. She is experienced in working with children of under eight years and has

a qualification in child care. Another member of staff is working towards a childcare qualification. The setting receives support from a mentor from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Staff promote the good health of children and take positive steps to prevent the spread of infection. Children learn to recognise and follow good personal hygiene routines. Staff clean the premises before children arrive, using anti-bacterial sprays on all surfaces to protect children from cross infection.

Staff ensure that children are protected as they have good systems in place to reduce the risk of illness. They act in children's best interest by making them comfortable, observing them and contacting parents if necessary. Two members of staff hold current first aid qualifications and the other members of staff hope to attend training courses in the near future. All documents required for the safe administration of medication and the clear recording accidents are in place, including permission to seek urgent medical attention.

Staff encourage children to make healthy food choices at snack times, as they are provided with fresh fruit and water throughout the session. A six year old tells a member of staff that he preferred water as it is better for him than juice. Children develop a positive attitude to physical exercise and benefit from outside play on the playing field adjoining the school. Children show confidence and a real sense of achievement as they play football and crazy golf. They develop good spatial awareness as they participate in a very good range of planned activities, both indoors and outside.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a generally safe and secure environment. They have sufficient space to move around the provision freely. Children know how to keep themselves safe while in the provision and recognise the areas that are out of bounds to them.

A suitable range of toys, games and equipment, which are in good condition, are provided. They are well maintained and conform to safety standards. All children are able to access the resources that have been set out before they arrive at the provision. If they require other equipment, staff collect these from the store room.

Staff are well deployed and supervise children at all times to ensure that they are kept safe. Staff minimise risks through the implementation of the provision's written health and safety policies, which are available to staff and parents. However, cleaning products have been left in an area of the toilets, which is accessible to children.

Staff ensure children are protected as they have a sound understanding of child protection procedures and would recognise the possible signs of abuse. Staff take positive steps to promote safety within provision to protect children of all ages.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

All children enjoy their time in the provision because the staff are skilled and use their good understanding of children's developmental needs to care for them appropriately. Staff plan first hand experiences to develop a wide range of skills. Children are cared for in an exciting and interesting environment where they are becoming confident.

During the inspection, the children aged under eight are seen to thoroughly enjoy using construction toys, imaginative play, craft activities, board games and outside games. Two six year olds share resources when building with the construction toys. They work together, chatting happily about their achievements. Staff are involved in the children's play, for example a member of staff sits on the floor with two children in the home corner where they all enjoy imaginative play. Another member of staff is on hand to assist older children with homework if required.

Children develop their confidence and independence as staff provide a warm and secure environment. Staff are friendly and approachable, listen and talk to the children, offering them encouragement and appropriate praise. They are interested in what children can do and say, and ask questions, which make children consider their actions.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children in provision are valued and respected as individuals. They develop a positive attitude towards themselves and others because staff provide resources and activities that reflect diversity. Staff know the children very well and understand their individual likes and dislikes. Evidence suggests that a child with learning difficulties, physical disabilities and for English is an additional language would be welcomed into the group.

Children behave very well. They recognise the difference between right and wrong and as a result, children show high levels of confidence and self-esteem, for example when children make their own sandwiches and build models. They understand that the provision has rules and staff help them to understand why some behaviour is not appropriate. Staff and children understand that some children need extra help and willingly support those who do.

Staff make parents and carers welcome in the provision and they are encouraged to take part in activities with their children. They are given verbal information about their children's activities and staff take time to share information through discussion. Parents are informed in writing of appropriate channels they can take if they wish to make a complaint outside the provision. However, this information requires updating.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff deployment and knowledge of child development is good. Staff have a very clear understanding of what is expected of them on a daily basis, helping to promote positive outcomes for children. Evidence suggests the provider uses effective recruitment procedures, which ensures that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified. Staff work together well to promote children's health, enjoyment and achievement.

The daily routines and available space is organised solely around the children's needs with a good balance of quiet activities and games that are more physical. Younger children have plenty of opportunity to rest and all children have opportunities to enjoy drinks and snacks.

An operational plan is available to staff and parents, which contains policies and procedures which ensures the efficient and safe management of the provision and to promote the welfare and care of the children. Most documentation is readily available and staff understand its importance. Children's records are stored securely and confidentially.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection, the provision has moved to another part of the school and the gym equipment longer poses a risk to children. Staff to identify and minimise hazards carry out basic risk assessments on the premises and equipment.

Evidence suggests an effective recruitment and induction programme is in place and staff have been given a copy of the provision's policies and procedures. Staff have attended child protection training and updated their knowledge.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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 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 that cleaning products are stored out of reach of the children
- update complaints procedure to include the Ofsted current address.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk