



Waterthorpe Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	300838
Inspection date	19 October 2006
Inspector	Tracey Jane Outram
Setting Address	Emmanuel Junior School, Thorpe Drive, Waterthorpe, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S20 7JU
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Registered person	Waterthorpe Kids 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.

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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Waterthorpe Kids Club opened in 1997, it is an out of school club, which is run by a voluntary management committee. The club operates from the Emmanuel Community rooms, which are on the same campus as Waterthorpe Infant School and Emmanuel Junior School. The club is available to children who attend either of the above named schools. The children have access to a large community hall and the adjacent school grounds.

The setting provides after school care for 24 children aged from three to eight years, although some children up to the age of 11 years attend the setting. The club opens Monday to Friday during the school term time and the children attend for a variety of sessions.

There are two members of staff who work with the children, both of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are cared for in clean and well-maintained premises. Members of staff are careful to ensure that the equipment and the furniture that children use is washed frequently in order to prevent the spread of infection. Established routines, such as hand washing are in place, and the children know that personal hygiene is essential to maintaining their good health. Members of staff understand the procedures for the safe administration of medication; however, they do not keep written records of all medicines given to children. This compromises children's health and is a breach of national requirements.

Appropriate procedures are in place to ensure that food is hygienically stored and prepared. The children are able to independently self-select fresh fruit, milk and drinking water, which is available at all times. The children also benefit from an organised snack time mid-way through the session. They break from activities for a short time and join together to socialise and enjoy a range of light refreshments, which are provided to address healthy eating policies, and the children's individual dietary requirements.

The children have a positive attitude towards exercise because their physical well-being is promoted appropriately through daily access to outside play. They thoroughly enjoy participating in ball games, team games and chasing each other; as a result, they are able to move quickly and easily as they control their bodies and become confident to use apparatus.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

The children have access to an open and spacious environment, which is appropriately planned to allow the children to move around freely and safely. The premises are set up in advance of the children's arrival, and staff take care to provide an environment that looks attractive and appealing. The children are able to engage in vigorous physical activities or make use of the designated quiet area, which is made comfortable and welcoming by the use of brightly coloured cushions and beanbags. The children have the use of a good variety of toys and equipment that are well-maintained and conform to British safety standards. However, the children are unable to access the resources safely without staff assistance, this restricts spontaneous free choice.

Visual risk assessments are completed by staff before the children enter the premises; for example, they check the security of the premises and ensure that there are no hazards, such as broken equipment that could harm the children. However, the deployment of staff across all play areas is insufficient, and as a result the children are on occasions left unsupervised as they play outdoors. This does not effectively minimise risks to children's well-being and is a breach of the regulatory requirements.

Members of staff are familiar with some of the indicators of child abuse and neglect. They have a basic understanding of the child protection procedures and they know who to contact to

express any concerns regarding a child's welfare. A written policy, which contains the necessary information is in place to support staff.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The children enjoy their time in the out of school club and most children are very task orientated as they move freely between the range of activities and resources that are on offer. The children frequently choose to play outdoors using the broad range of easily accessible equipment. Relationships between the children are good and they are able to work together closely in order to solve problems and complete tasks. For instance, the children communicate effectively as they skilfully build innovative models using construction toys, such as Knex.

Members of staff are interested in what the children do and the children confidently approach staff to participate in activities with them. For instance, they seek out staff to join in board games, and they respond positively to staff encouragement, which assists them in the completion of some complex jigsaw puzzles. The children demonstrate good concentration skills, and most of them are satisfied with the activities on offer, such as role play, small world equipment and an electronic games console.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children behave well and their self-esteem is fostered effectively because staff provide plenty of praise and encouragement. Overall, supportive and firm friendships are in evidence between the children attending the setting because they are helped by staff to seek their own solutions to minor disagreements. As a result, the children develop confidence in their own abilities and they recognise the importance of sharing and taking turns. There is a clearly written policy relating to behaviour management and systems are in place to deal with any incidents of bullying. There are numerous opportunities for children to engage in non-stereotypical play, which ensures they develop a sense of equality. However, their awareness of diversity is insufficiently fostered.

Friendly relationships are developed with parents who are greeted warmly and welcomed into the setting. Members of staff ensure that they are informed verbally of their children's needs and the time spent in the club. Some limited written information is provided for parents to inform them about the operation of the setting, but policies and procedures are not openly accessible. At the start of a placement, staff routinely gather information from parents to ensure that they are aware of any dietary requirements, which may relate to the children's likes and dislikes. However, there are no formal systems in place to meet with parents and reach agreements based on addressing the children's changing needs.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The children's care and well-being is appropriately supported by staff who build warm relationships with the children, and take positive steps to value the children's contributions. Recruitment of staff is appropriate to safeguard children and all adults having contact with the children are vetted. Similarly, adult to child ratios are correctly maintained and staff hold relevant qualifications.

Children's personal records, written parental permissions and all other mandatory documentation such as registers of attendance, records of visitors and accident logs are up-to-date and stored confidentially. However, while the children are happy and confident in their environment, the unsuccessful deployment of staff does not adequately maintain children's safety outdoors, and failure to keep medication records means that national requirements are not met. Overall, the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was asked to improve the range of resources that promote equality of opportunity and update the child protection procedure. This has now been completed, and as a result, the children have access to some toys that provide positive images of diversity and the child protection policy complies with national requirements. The setting was also asked to improve the procedures for recording and administering medication, however, this has not been addressed satisfactorily, therefore, the procedures do not safeguard children effectively.

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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- assess the risks to children in relation to staff deployment in the outside play area, and take action to minimise these

- ensure that children are supervised at all times
- maintain a written records of all medicines given to children.

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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