



# The Fielders Out of Hours Club

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	258821
<b>Inspection date</b>	29 November 2006
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<b>Registered person</b>	The Fielders Clubs Ltd
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Fielders out of Hours Club is run by the Fielders Club Ltd. It opened in 2001 and operates from a classroom and the library area in a primary school in Oldswinford on the outskirts of Stourbridge. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 07:45 to 08:45 and 15:30 to 18:00 during school term times. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 64 children aged from four to under eight years on roll. It is the admission policy of the group to provide places for children up to the age of 11 years. Children come from a local catchment area, as most of their parents travel in to work on or around the area. The club currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs ten members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is good.

Children stay healthy because staff are pro-active in promoting good hygiene by raising children's awareness of healthy living. Children understand the need for good personal hygiene and routinely wash their hands before snacks and after using the toilet. Staff support and guide children during these routines. There are effective systems in place to maintain the premises and resources to a good standard of cleanliness. Children are cared for if they become unwell, staff have completed first aid training and the first aid box is easily accessible. Written parental consent is in place to enable staff to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. Staff share accident records with parents when they collect their child, all of this good practice ensures children's health and general well-being is protected.

Children are able to help themselves to drinking water throughout the session. This ensures children are kept hydrated. Children are offered a snack after school; this is usually a sandwich, or savoury foods such as pitta bread or cheese and crackers. There is always a selection of fresh fruit available. Children sit together for snack time and this is a sociable occasion. Good procedures are in place when preparing snacks and a member of staff has completed food hygiene training. Children's dietary needs are discussed with parents and they record details of any specific requirements or allergies.

Children's physical development is well-supported and there are frequent opportunities to play football, cricket or team games outdoors, weather permitting. Staff recognises that this contributes to children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle, helps them develop confidence and improves their physical skills.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children are kept safe because staff have an awareness of health and safety issues. Staff are exceptionally vigilant, deployed effectively and supervise the children extremely well. Children develop an encouraging understanding about keeping themselves safe, they know the environment well and adhere to the safety rules within the setting, for example, observing the boundaries outside and moving around safely inside. Children know how to evacuate the premises in an emergency; the procedure is regularly practised with them. The system for managing access to the premises is very effective; the building has been assessed and the particular needs and potential risks with regard to the out of school club have been formally addressed. For example, staff wear uniforms and ID badges and children are aware of the policy for answering the door.

Indoor space and activities are presented in a safe and attractive way. There are inspiring displays of art work in the room and it is evident from these that children thoroughly enjoy their time at the club. Children are able to play with toys and equipment that are appropriate and suitable for children of differing abilities and interests.

Children are well-protected because staff understand their role in child protection and are confident and clear about how they implement the appropriate procedures when necessary. Staff have attended child protection training and a written policy is in place which is shared with parents.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the club and are eager to join in the wide range of activities. Children's individual needs are met and their welfare are extremely well-promoted by staff who have an exceptionally good understanding of each child and their interests. A range of innovative activities and play opportunities are planned and resources are provided which are appropriate to the age of children attending. Children are very well-occupied and are able to make their own decisions and choices about their play. This encourages children to be confident, independent and develop their self-esteem. Staff are passionate and keen to focus on play and fun when children are at the club.

Children are able to play imaginatively, using a variety of props to act out various roles such as a child practicing magic tricks who has mastered the art very well. Children are proud of their achievements and talk eagerly about what they have done, for example, their art and craft activities, which are currently based around a Christmas theme. Calendars, cards and tree decorations are being produced with great enthusiasm. Children play with a good range of equipment outside where they develop their physical skills and have fun with their friends. They enjoy playing team games, football and cricket.

Children benefit from very good interactions with staff. Staff have an inspiring, warm rapport with the children and the level of interaction is carefully balanced, for example if a child needs a partner to play a game or if children need help and support during activities which are more complex. Children are given time to play and learn independently, initiate their own activities and explore freely. Children develop an excellent understanding about what is right and wrong; this is because staff are very positive role models. They set a good example to children as they listen and value what children have to say. This helps build positive relationships.

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

The provision is good.

Children develop confidence and self-esteem because staff value their contribution and achievements whilst at the club. Children are treated with equal concern and have their individual needs met well because staff work closely with parents to ensure each child is fully included in the life of the setting. Staff are practical and positive about inclusion and children with special needs have access alongside their peers to the facilities, activities and play opportunities to promote their welfare.

Staff act as good role models and they encourage responsible behaviour, they treat children with respect and create a sense of belonging. Children are encouraged to think carefully about the needs of others. They are well-behaved because staff are positive in their approach to

maintain good behaviour and help children distinguish right from wrong. A written statement on behaviour management ensures that the methods used are consistent and developmentally appropriate. Parents are aware of the policy and any significant incidents are recorded. All of this helps to promote children's welfare and development.

Children benefit from the positive partnership staff have developed with parents. Staff are friendly and approachable, they work closely with parents and share information each day when children are collected. Written agreements with parents are comprehensive and clear, however the complaints procedure does not contain the correct information to share with parents. Therefore, parents are not fully informed of factors that potentially impact on children's well-being.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are well-protected because recruitment and vetting procedures in use are rigorous and robust. Staff employed at the setting have a sound knowledge and understanding of child development. They work well as a team and are clear about their deployment and responsibilities. Staffing ratios support children's care, learning and play and their ability to take an active part in the setting. The organisation of routines and activities are well-planned to support children having freedom of choice and there are opportunities for spontaneous activities as the children develop their own ideas and play. As a result children feel secure and confident in a warm and welcoming environment.

Children's health, safety and welfare are well-promoted. Comprehensive policies, records and procedures which are necessary for the smooth running of the facility are in place which has a positive impact on children's safety and well-being. Children's personal information is stored securely. The manager is aware of notifying Ofsted of significant events and retaining records for the required period. Parental confidentiality is maintained, and information is shared which enhances partnership with parents.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the previous inspection the registered committee was asked to complete three recommendations to improve practice. These related to developing risk assessments for indoors and outside identifying action to be taken to minimise identified risks, updating the Child Protection statement to include the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer; to share all policies and procedure documents with parents and ensure confidentiality is maintained relating to individual children.

The registered committee has devised formats for conducting risk assessments and these are updated on a regular basis. The Child Protection statement has been updated and is now in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and staff are aware of these. Parents now have access to all policies and procedures as these are available in a folder at the main

entrance to the club. All recommendations have been sufficiently well-addressed and as a result, children's care, safety and welfare are fully supported.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since April 1 2004, Ofsted received one complaint relating to National Standard 3: Care, learning and play and National Standard 14: Working in partnership with parents and carers. This involved concerns raised by a parent about the quality of care and interaction of staff and the lack of information about her child from the provider. We discussed the concerns with the manager who fully co-operated and as a result two recommendations were raised. Ofsted was satisfied that by taking these steps the provider met the National Standards and remained qualified for registration at the time the investigation was closed.

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 good. 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 parents are made aware of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)