



First Friends After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY332468
Inspection date	02 November 2006
Inspector	Justine Ellaway
Setting Address	Parkview Primary School, Springwood Drive, Oakwood, Derby, Derbyshire, DE21 2RQ
Telephone number	01332 835439
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Registered person	First Friends P.D.N. 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

First Friends After School Club is one of several facilities run by First Friends Private Day Nursery Limited. It opened in 2006 and operates from three rooms in Parkview Primary School, Oakwood, Derby. A maximum of 26 children may attend the out of school club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 07.30 to 09.00 and 15.15 to 18.30 during term time and 07.30 to 18.30 during school holidays. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 18 children aged from four to under eight years on roll.

The club employs three members of staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy regular opportunities to be active and have physical exercise, which promotes development of their physical skills. There are regular outdoor sessions and children move around freely inside the room, playing games such as hide and seek. Children are well nourished and enjoy a substantial healthy snack. They are given a choice about what they eat and their independence is further encouraged as they help themselves to the food and pour their own drinks. Children's dietary needs are met as information regarding any allergies is gathered at the time of placement.

Children stay healthy because staff employ effective procedures throughout the session. There is a clear written health and safety policy in place. Staff use anti-bacterial spray to clean tables when setting up. Children's good hygiene is encouraged as they are reminded to wash their hands after toileting and before eating. A clear sick child policy is shared with parents at the time of placement. Children use liquid soap and paper towels for hand washing. Staff have a list of contagious diseases and exclusion periods for reference. As a result the risk of cross-infection is effectively minimised. Children receive appropriate care when they have an accident or become ill to maintain their good health. There is always a first aid trained staff member and there is a first aid box with appropriate contents. Accident and medication records contain relevant information and all of the necessary signatures.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a very warm and welcoming environment which helps them to feel secure and comfortable. There is a homely feel. Staff greet children warmly and show lots of interest when they first arrive, talking to the children as they relay events from their school day. As a result children enter confidently and are happy to come to the club. There is sufficient space for the number of children and it is effectively organised to provide space for children to play table top games as well as floor play. Children have independent access to a varied range of resources and choose what they want to play with.

Children's safety is well promoted within the setting. Careful consideration is given to there being other people in the building at the time the club is open. Staff have a sound awareness of risks and hazards and have put appropriate measures in place to minimise these. The person in charge has recently attended training in health and safety. There is a clear policy for outings and lost and uncollected children. Electrical equipment is tested regularly. Evacuation procedures are practised regularly so that children know how to keep calm in the event of an emergency.

Children are protected because staff clearly understand their role in child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary. They know the different types of abuse and possible signs and symptoms. There is a clear written child protection statement containing relevant information. As a result children's safety and welfare is fully promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and enter the setting enthusiastically. Their self-esteem is well fostered because staff spend time listening and talking to the children. There are a good range of play opportunities and activities. Planning ensures that the toys and resources are rotated to ensure variety for children who attend. Structured activities are available if children want to participate, for example, in art and craft. Staff are very flexible and are led by what the children want to do. If the children choose to do something different than a planned activity staff help them to set this up.

Children benefit from good interaction from staff during the session. They also have times when they play independently, which supports their relationships with others and their decision-making skills. Children use good imagination as they create their own games. Children engage in play during their time at the club.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are met well. Staff gather information about children at the time of placement, such as likes and dislikes. Staff are proactive in approaching parents about any issues so that they can work together to support children to settle in. Children with special needs receive a suitable service at the club. A clear policy supports their rights to the same opportunities as all children. Children develop an understanding of the wider world through the celebration of different festivals and a small range of resources.

Children behave well whilst at the club. There is a very calm and friendly atmosphere. Staff are very effective at diffusing any arguments between children in a supportive and sensitive way. Children are encouraged to share and take turns and play well with others. They negotiate when they are going to play certain games and wait patiently whilst others finish. Children benefit from lots of praise and encouragement whilst they are playing.

Parents receive a useful information leaflet at the time of placement, which includes details of the activities provided. A regular newsletter keeps parents up to date on what is happening at the club. Staff feedback to parents what children have been doing when they are collected. Staff praise the children which fosters their self-esteem. A clear parents as partners policy, places value on parents contributions and acknowledges their role as the main carer. As a result consistency of care is effectively promoted.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's safety is promoted because appropriate checks are undertaken on adults working with children. Children receive appropriate care and support from a staff team who work well together. Regular communication ensures that all staff are clear on their duties during the session. Children benefit from good interaction from staff who are well deployed throughout

the session, with each staff member working with children on a one to one basis or in small groups.

All of the required documentation is in place and there is an organised file of clear and relevant policies. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of them and effectively promote children's health, safety, enjoyment and achievement. Additional permissions are sought at the time of placement, for example, to apply sun cream, which promotes consistency of care. Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 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):

- expand the range of resources that positively promotes equal opportunities

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