



The Roundabout Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 220106

Inspection date 16 August 2006

Inspector Andrea Ewer

Setting Address Earl Spencer Primary School, Streatfield Road, Spencer Estate,
Northampton, Northants, NN5 7DE

Telephone number

E-mail

Registered person The Roundabout 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Roundabout Out of School Club operates in Earl Spencer Primary School within Spencer Estate, Northampton. It serves the local community and beyond. Children have access to the school hall, a large room and dining hall. Children share access to the playground and adjoining playing fields.

The group opens for five evenings a week during school term time and operates during the school holidays. The after school club sessions run from 15:00 until 18:00 and the holiday playscheme operates from 08:00 until 18:00. A total of six staff work with the children, none are currently qualified. Two staff members have completed

the Take Five Introduction to Playwork course and three staff are working towards a qualification. There are currently 25 children under the age of eight years on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have regular access to outdoor play where they benefit from fresh air and exercise. They play team games of rounders, football and cricket where they develop their large muscles and co-ordination. Younger children enjoy themselves as they ride bikes or scooters and climb on the large play apparatus.

Generally staff support children to develop healthy eating habits. Children are encouraged to eat their sandwiches and savoury foods before cakes and chocolate bars. At snack times, however children continue to eat sugary cakes daily which does not sufficiently promote their good health.

Children are developing good hygiene practices. They wash their hands before eating and after visiting the toilet to prevent the spread of infection. Children receive appropriate care in the event of minor accidents or illness because sufficient staff hold an up-to-date first aid qualification and a well stocked first aid kit is readily accessible. Effective measures are in place to ensure the health of children who have special dietary or medical needs is not compromised. Information is obtained from parents and shared with staff in order that children receive appropriate care.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in clean and tidy premises where their safety is promoted well. Space and resources are organised to allow children to move around comfortably and participate in a wide range of activities. Children choose what to play with from a wide range of generally good quality toys and interesting activities that meets their play and development needs well. Suitable measures are in place to ensure children are safe and to prevent accidents. Children are well supervised both in and outside because sufficient staff are deployed effectively. Fire drills are practised regularly and a safety gate prevents children accessing the kitchen unsupervised.

Children are protected from harm or neglect because most staff have satisfactory knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse, and the correct procedure to follow if they are concerned about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy their time in the out of school club. They participate in a wide range of

stimulating games and activities that meets their social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs well. Children express themselves creatively as they actively engage in craft activities using a wide range of media such as recycled materials, glue, paint and various textured papers. They have fun taking part in party games such as musical statues and share and take turns appropriately as they use the games console. Children's needs for active or quiet play are well catered for. Rooms are organised to allow them to play quietly, or engage in more active play outdoors.

Children benefit from warm, friendly interaction with staff who know them well, and spend most of their time playing with and talking to children. Children feel secure as they are introduced to visitors and feel valued by staff who show interest in their music, games and general conversations.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children feel valued because they are cared for by consistent staff who know them well and overall meet their individual needs. They are developing a secure understanding of our similarities and differences because they have regular access to a good range of resources that reflects themselves and people of other races, cultures, abilities and beliefs.

Children know what is expected of them and respond well to staff's calm approach to address any unwanted behaviour. Children enjoy warm interaction with staff who play with them, have good opportunities to make choices and receive regular praise and support. As a result, children are well behaved.

Children benefit from the effective partnership between parents and staff. Information is obtained from parents that helps staff provide appropriate care and is shared regularly. The complaints procedure does not comply with current requirements and potentially compromises children's welfare.

Children who have learning difficulties are well supported in the club. Staff are aware of their needs and work consistently to ensure their individual needs are met. Children make good progress because staff work in partnership with the school and outside agencies when required.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. Children's welfare, care and safety are promoted because staff have undergone appropriate vetting procedures to ensure they are suitable to work with children. Furniture, space and resources are organised to allow children to participate comfortably in active or quiet play. The quality of care is enhanced because staff attend training workshops and two staff are working towards a qualification. Staff have recently updated first aid training, and others have attended training in positive

behaviour management and 'active kids' which promotes physical play.

Overall, records, policies and procedures required for the safe and efficient management of the club are well maintained and therefore promotes children's welfare. Staff and children's attendance is recorded daily, consent for outing and emergency medical treatment or advice is obtained and all required policies and procedures are in place.

Improvements since the last inspection

The last inspection required the club to take appropriate steps to ensure children's safety at all times, make sure persons having unsupervised access to children are suitable to do so, and develop and implement an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met. Children's welfare, care and safety are now promoted more effectively because Criminal Records Bureau checks have been carried out on previously uncleared staff, and toys and equipment are now stored appropriately on shelves which reduces the risk of accidents. The action plan has now been implemented setting out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met. Places have been secured for two member of staff on National Vocational Qualification courses at level two and three. This will continue to improve the standard of care provided to children.

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:

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 the complaints procedure complies with current guidance
- improve children's good health by providing snacks that promote healthy eating

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