



Whitley Memorial Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY233586
Inspection date	30 August 2006
Inspector	Jasmin Myles-Wilson
Setting Address	Gordon Terrace, Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 5DE
Telephone number	07956 6404407
E-mail	
Registered person	Trinity Youth Association
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?

Whitley Memorial Out Of School Club opened in November 2002 and is situated in Whitley Memorial First School, Gordon Terrace, Bedlington, Northumberland. The club is run by the charity Trinity Youth Association. Places are available for children from Whitley Memorial First School. The premises are within walking distance of local transport and Bedlington town centre.

Children are cared for by two staff and the group has access to a pool of Trinity Trust relief workers. Both permanent staff members are qualified to Level 3 in childcare

and playwork. Students work at the setting with supervision from staff members. Children attending the group are mainly from the school. The group is registered to provide care for a maximum of 24 children aged from three to eight years. There are currently 140 children on roll of which 58 are under eight years. The group supports a number of children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Children have access to three large adjacent rooms, the school playground and occasionally the school hall. The group opens all year round, five days a week, Monday to Friday and sessions run from 15:10 to 18:00 during term time from 07:45 to 18:00 during school holidays.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are developing an awareness of the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines and conversations. For example, they talk about why it is necessary to brush their teeth every day. Reasonable steps are taken to ensure the environment is hygienic and contributes to the health of children. There are suitable procedures in place so sick or injured children receive appropriate care and attention.

Children enjoy going outside to do physical activities, such as running, playing ball games or cricket. They have regular access to quiet and physical activities, however, facilities for them to rest is limited, therefore, the overall well-being and health of children is not sufficiently promoted.

Healthy eating is sufficiently promoted. Children's individual dietary needs are met as parents provide packed meals for their children. Staff have knowledge of individual children's dietary needs and provide healthy and nutritious snacks which children enjoy as they sit together and socialise. Children help themselves to a drink, throughout the day, from covered jugs of fresh juice, milk or water, which are left in a suitable place to encourage independency.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are welcomed in the group. They are settled and can generally access a range of maintained, suitable and age appropriate activities. The premises are appropriately maintained and secure which contributes to children being secure. Children move freely and safely around areas due to staff taking reasonable steps to ensure risks to children are reduced. For example, staff do visual risk assessments on a daily basis for base activities and written risk assessments for outings. However, fire safety procedures are not fully implemented as requested, when the last fire safety review was conducted.

Children are developing an awareness of their own health and safety through discussions, role-play such as being able to say 'no' to drugs and cigarettes, and

project work. They practice evacuating from the premises in an emergency which raises their awareness to safety issues.

Staff have sufficient knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and their responsibility, therefore, children are safeguarded and their welfare is protected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy and choose from a wide range of activities, things that are of interest to them. For example, drawing pictures and cutting them out or doing an outside activity, such as basketball. They grow in confidence and independence as they make requests and decisions, such as deciding whether to wear a coat when playing outside or requesting what activity they would like to do. The planning of activities is flexible, taking into consideration individual needs. They also give children good choices and adult directing is minimal.

Staff communicate with children in a clear and effective way through using open-ended questions, facial expressions and expressive voice tones. Children are able to reminisce and enthusiastically recall happy events, such as where they have been on holiday. Their thinking increases which enables them to competently develop strategies to solve problems. Children's level of self-esteem is good and developed through staff's encouragement and praise. Staff are friendly which enhances the good interaction with the children, such as lots of eye contact, exchanging smiles and engaging conversation. Children are self-assured in approaching staff. They have clear understanding of right from wrong through discussion, rules, gentle reminders and staff being good role models. For example, children are gently reminded of the rule and boundaries when they are doing outside activities and they respond by following the rules.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are realistically met through staff having a sound understanding of equality and diversity. They are valued and learn to be respectful and interact well with each other. They also gain wider knowledge and understanding of the world and their community as it is actively promoted in a good number of ways. For example, staff's positive attitude, discussions and providing activities suitable for individual children's age and stage of development. The group supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities. Because of staff's good understanding, the children are fully integrated into the group. Children receive one-to-one care as needed which helps with their inclusion in activities.

Effective behaviour management strategies encourage children to be well-behaved, for example, gentle reminders and reinforcing rules within the group. Children learn what behaviour is acceptable, such as what language is acceptable to use when attending the group. They learn to take turns and follow rules, for example, children

know where they should play when outside as they remind each other. There is a calm atmosphere and staff provide good role models for the children.

Staff consult parents and are clear about how to care for their children take care to respect their wishes. Children benefit from staff having good partnerships with parents, as their individual needs are effectively met. Parents are happy, listened to and receive frequent information regarding their children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff organise the space adequately to enable children to move around their environment independently. They use their time sufficiently to assist and be interactive with the children, throughout the day, so children are settled and secure.

Suitable documentation is in place to ensure the safe management of the group and to ensure children are safeguarded. Adequate contingency plans and recruitment procedures are in place which ensures that staff are suitable to care for children. 50% of staff are qualified, however, the group does not always ensure that a suitably qualified member of staff is on duty at all times.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the Out of School Club was given two actions; to keep a record of accidents signed by parents and inform Ofsted of any changes to the manager of the provision.

The provision now receives parent signatures on all accidents sustained by children.

The manager has a clear understanding of her responsibilities to inform Ofsted of any major changes or events.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- improve opportunities for children to rest throughout the day
- ensure there are appropriately qualified staff on duty at all times.

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