



Cats Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY292383
Inspection date 17 October 2005
Inspector Judith Mary Scott

Setting Address St. Therasas R.C. Primary School, Montacute Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6RL

Telephone number

E-mail

Registered person Cats 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?

Cats Club, Morden was registered in 2004. The out of school care scheme operates from St. Theresa's RC Primary School in Morden, Surrey. It provides a service for the children who attend the school. It is located in single storey premises and the scheme uses a base room with storage facilities, a hall, a gym, an IT suite and toilet facilities with an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 23 children on roll for after school care and 10 children on roll for the breakfast club, aged from 4 years to under 12 years. Children attend a variety of

sessions. The setting supports children with special needs and no children who speak English as an additional language currently attend.

The breakfast club is open from 7.45 to 8.45 and the after school club is open from 15.10 to 18.00, Monday to Friday, term time.

Three members of staff work with the children. One member of staff is qualified NNEB and has the Advanced Diploma in Childcare and Education, one member of staff is working towards a recognised play work qualification and the other member of staff is unqualified, but due to start training for a recognised play work qualification soon. The setting is working towards maintaining a balance of 50% qualified staff.

The setting receives support from the Local Authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and reasonably clean environment that is welcoming and friendly to children and their families. Children's needs are met by staff through the daily routine and positive interaction. Children are able to express their feelings through discussion with staff. Children's physical and emotional care is sufficiently supported by staff, they are given attention and reassurance.

Out of school children are provided with a snack in the afternoons, plus breakfast in the mornings. Menus are balanced but limited, because of restricted preparation facilities. They are supplemented with fresh fruit and salad and staff comply with any specific dietary requirements. Children are provided with drinks and water is available at all times.

Children find out about healthy eating through discussion and their choices are sometimes included on the menu. They also learn about the importance of physical activity in maintaining a healthy life style and display a positive attitude towards exercise, with plenty of opportunities for physical play, plus chances to socialise and relax.

Children's health is adequately protected by staff's knowledge of first aid, health and safety, appropriate documentation and general good hygiene practice. Children learn the importance of personal hygiene through daily routines, they know for example, that it is important to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating.

Children benefit from physical activity and exercise to help them develop control of their bodies. The outdoor play area is used regularly under constant supervision with a satisfactory range of activities, sport and games. Children have plenty of opportunities to let off steam, improve physical skills, make choices and interact with others.

The children's individual needs are met and information is shared with parents. The

scheme maintains adequate records, however, accident and incident records lack the required details.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a child friendly environment that is safe and secure. Children can move around the base rooms safely because staff take appropriate measures to reduce potential hazards. They are aware of the importance of risk assessment and satisfactory safety measures are in place.

Children are made aware of the importance of using toys and play equipment safely through discussion and guidance from the staff team. Children are supervised and staff act as positive role models encouraging children to develop self awareness. Children are given clear boundaries of behaviour and staff ensure children are safe moving around the school.

Children have access to a reasonable range of toys, books and play materials. The provision is being extended and improvements made for storage, accessibility & presentation. This includes arts and crafts materials, puzzles, some imaginary and role play, books, construction, and games to cover the whole age range.

Children's welfare is paramount, however, the staff team's knowledge and understanding of the issues and the procedures to follow in the event of a child protection concern is limited. There is also a potential risk to children's safety as the provider has not met all the regulatory requirements.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children experience a regular routine before and after school that includes registration, free and planned indoor play activities, breakfast and tea time, physical activities and quiet times with opportunities for reading books and stories. Children are able to have fun, let off steam, relax and socialise.

Children participate in a variety of suitable play and learning activities such as creative activities, puzzles, board and table top games, books, some imaginary and role play, construction and "School friend" an educational computer programme that includes spelling, maths and vocabulary. Children participate in physical activities such as organised games and sport, with use of bats, balls, ropes and outdoor fixed equipment.

Children are generally confident in their relationships with staff and are happy, comfortable and settled. Children are chatty and friendly. They are encouraged to talk and express themselves by staff and share their thoughts and ideas.

Children play together and with adults enjoying resources such as table top games and sports equipment. Children are involved and engaged in their play and speak

about what they are doing, for example, how they use "School friend" and what they enjoy at the after school scheme.

Most of the children attend the scheme on a regular basis, so staff have a satisfactory understanding of their individual needs. The children's enjoyment enables staff to evaluate the success of the activities and children's ideas are welcomed.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

New children are settled in well and this is arranged to suit their individual needs. Children are valued as individuals and benefit from positive partnerships that staff have developed with parents. There is a regular exchange of verbal information with parents and access to the scheme's policies and procedures on request. Children's welfare and progress are discussed with parents and supported by appropriate documentation.

Children have clear boundaries of acceptable and unacceptable behaviour and they and their parents are made aware of the scheme's expectations. Children discuss and agree club rules with staff and are encouraged to share, take turns, help tidy up and play together co-operatively. Staff are consistent and use appropriate behaviour management strategies. Children are generally well behaved and respond to staff's requests and guidance.

Children are encouraged to develop a positive view of others and all have access to the range of activities offered. Gender discrimination and stereotyping are discouraged. All children are treated as individuals and with equal concern. They are encouraged to respect and value others.

Staff are aware of the importance of positive images, attitudes, role models and how this is reflected in recruitment, care and play provision. However, children have limited access to resources that promote a positive view of the wider community and increase their understanding of diversity. This continues to be developed. Children with special needs benefit from the staff's positive attitudes and the aim of the scheme is to be proactive in meeting their needs.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children's individual care needs are supported and the environment is satisfactory, however, at the inspection there was no evidence that the qualification and vetting criteria are being met. The provider has not notified Ofsted of the change in the Person in Charge at the setting and there are no staff records on site available for inspection. The organisation does not meet the regulatory requirements.

Therefore, overall, the provision does not meet the range of needs of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration. 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

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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:

- inform Ofsted of any changes to the Person in Charge and ensure all members of staff are suitable and qualified to work with 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 *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk