



Time Out

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	400224
Inspection date	21 September 2006
Inspector	Dawn Lumb
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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?

Time Out is an out of school club and was registered in June 2000. It is privately owned and operates from a single story building located in the grounds of Sherburn High School in Sherburn-in-Elmet, North Yorkshire. The building has three playrooms, kitchen, office and toilet facilities. There is an enclosed garden for outside play.

A maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. The club is open Monday to Friday from 07.30 to 09.15 and 14.45 to 18.00 in term-time and from 07.30 to 18.00 during school holidays. There are currently 65 children on roll who attend for a variety of sessions. The club provides out of school care for children from four to 14 years. The group support children with special needs. Children come from the local and surrounding areas.

The club employs four staff. The owner, who is also the manager, and one other staff member hold a level 3 qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with an environment which is adequately clean. Children are well protected from the spread of infection because good regard is given to this, and effective procedures are practised. For example, the basins and toilets are regularly checked and cleaned. Parents are appropriately informed about the policies and procedures and they are clear about the action to be taken if children are ill.

Children are suitably nourished because they receive an adequate variety of snacks and meals. Meals served to children are given in good quantities for their needs. Children are given alternative choice and are confident to ask for their preference. However, fruit and vegetables are rarely offered and healthy eating is not successfully promoted. Children benefit from staff's good awareness to provide drinks. For example, it was a hot day when children arrived from school and staff were mindful to gather children together to ensure they had a drink. Children are able to also independently access drinking water throughout the session.

Children develop their physical skills well. They participate in physical activities as they have access to the outside play area and inside they have such activities as a pool table and various games. Staff are skilful to support and encourage children's involvement in physical play opportunities. Children's confidence and self-assurance are promoted as staff participate in many games. For example, children enjoyed playing catch and bat and ball with staff.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are kept safe in a warm, welcoming and secure environment. There are effective policies, procedures and risk assessments in place which are regularly carried out; these ensure children's safety at all times. For example, effective movement and transport procedures.

Space, resources and staff are effectively deployed, which allows children to move around with independence, safety and freedom. Children benefit from a wide selection of resources and equipment which are safely stored, safe, suitable and purposeful, and developmentally appropriate.

Children gain a good understanding of keeping themselves safe through the staff's high levels of awareness, vigilance and skilful explanations. For example, the recent implementation of booster seats within the mini bus. The children and staff discuss why and what may happen, so that children of all ages understand.

Children are appropriately protected from possible abuse through the staff's sound knowledge and understanding of the issues surrounding child protection. Management are clear in their procedures, which enables them to employ staff who are appropriately vetted, with relevant experience, knowledge and skills in caring for children. Children are kept safe from harm through the staff's vigilant approach and very good dual purpose registration system.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very confident and self-assured. They actively contribute to the planned activities and are motivated to independently access a broad range of resources and experiences which are varied and imaginative. For example, they investigate the local wildlife area, talk about trees and growth, and collect fallen conkers to take back to the setting to observe and investigate them. Children benefit from flexible planning that incorporates children's interests and opinions, local interests, the local environment and wider world. For example, the children make items for the local community gala float. They are involved in the local library activities and further extend the spy theme within the club.

Children enjoy working with a variety of stimulating materials and textures to create their own pictures and join together to contribute and further develop wall friezes, collages and other creative work. For example, on one playroom wall there is a village street with the road and various shops alongside. Children have cut paper, painted and used a variety of shiny and tissue paper to create the picture.

Children benefit from the manager and staff's good knowledge and understanding of learning through interesting play opportunities and through their skilful interaction and support. Children are encouraged to participate in activities, to ask questions and acquire new skills. Children have access to an adequate variety of books and the use of a computer and technical equipment, which are well monitored for access time to stop children spending the whole session using the computer.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are provided with a welcoming environment. They are cared for by staff that are very friendly, approachable, positive and enjoy what they do. Children are very confident and self-assured; they are highly motivated and interested in a good variety of activities, resources and experiences which are varied and imaginative.

Children benefit from a setting where equal access, inclusion, positive attitudes and good support ensure children feel a strong sense of belonging and are fully included in the life of the setting. Children are highly valued and their individual needs are well met through the manager and staff's good knowledge and understanding of all the children in their care. Children are happy and confident to express their feelings and make choices; they eagerly join together and enthusiastically participate in their play and activities. Children share, take turns and are encouraged to be supportive to others. For example, younger and older children join together and demonstrate different techniques when playing pool. Children behave very well. They are encouraged to be independent and responsible. For example, they know and understand the rules and boundaries, such as when they have finished playing with a toy or game they put it away. The manager and staff are skilful in their awareness over when and how to support the children. Children's good understanding of their own needs and those of others are fostered well because of the staff's vigilant approach and skilful monitoring.

Children develop a positive attitude and a good understanding of the local community and wider world because they access interesting and stimulating activities and well-planned opportunities that increase their awareness of diversity. For example, children participate in fun games and activities in relation to the World Cup and participate in the local gala.

Parents are warmly greeted and welcomed into the setting; their wishes and views are well respected and valued by the manager and staff. The manager and staff support children and parents well. They are flexible and accommodating towards parents and children; this ensures children can take an active part in out of school activities. For example, children are collected at various times from school trips and activities. Parents receive daily verbal feedback about their child's progress and information about the provision, including policies procedures, relevant and required documentation.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a welcoming setting and from staff who are enthusiastic, motivated and positive, and who enjoy what they do. They actively support, encourage and involve themselves in children's play, learning and development. Inclusion of children is given good regard, and staff's positive attitude and good levels of awareness effectively support children's welfare and their ability to take an active part in the setting.

Space and resources are appropriately used to allow children to access a broad and balanced range of toys, resource, activities and experiences with freedom and independence. Children are protected from harm through appropriate health and safety procedures, policies and documentation. All regulatory documentation is in place, which ensures the provision runs smoothly and effectively.

Improvements since the last inspection

The last inspection raised two actions and recommendations in relation to: staff qualifications being met; the registration requirements with regard to the owner's child attending and the child's age; health, in regards to parents' signatures being obtained after administering medication; and safety, in regards to procedures being in place in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member or volunteer. These have been successfully addressed in order to promote children's health, safety and welfare and to protect them from harm. A staff member has completed a level 3 play work qualification. The owner's own child is of an age to attend. Parents sign after medication has been administered. The child protection policy has been revised and includes a more detailed written procedure.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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):

- improve children's opportunities to regularly access fruit and vegetables and promote children's understanding of 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