



## Whizz Kids - Pikemere School

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	305433
<b>Inspection date</b>	28 September 2006
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<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Whizz Kids Out of School Club is one of four out of school facilities and is privately owned. It opened in 1998 and operates from purpose built premises within the grounds of Pikemere County Primary School. The building consists of three rooms and all children share access to a secure outdoor play area. A maximum of 48 children aged from three to under eight years may attend the out of school club at any one time. The out of school club is open each weekday from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 18.00 during term time and 07.45 to 18.00 during school holidays.

There are currently 49 children aged from three to eight years on roll. The setting currently supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities. There are no children who speak English as an additional language.

The out of school club employs two full-time and three part-time members of staff who work directly with the children. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is currently completing a childcare qualification.

The providers are members of '4 children' and Cheshire's Out of School Care Association (OSCA). They have achieved a Quality Assurance, Level 3, Aiming High '4 children' certificate.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a stimulating and hygienic environment. They thrive because staff follow effective procedures and practices which meet children's individual needs. These include effective cleaning systems to prevent the risk of cross infection, such as the use of anti bacterial spray for specific tasks. Children effectively learn the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines, for example, they wash their hands independently after outside play, using the toilet and before snacks. All children attend to their own personal needs competently. A detailed sick child policy and procedure ensures parents and carers are kept fully aware of the group's responsibilities and that children are cared for sensitively and free from infection.

The good levels of staff support help children gain a good understanding of staying healthy through themes and activities. Most children enjoy healthy snacks, such as fruit kebabs and other healthy options which staff provide for their snacks. However, there are a small number of children who still ask for, and prefer sweet biscuits; this means that healthy eating is not observed at all times. Children can help themselves to drinking water throughout the session; this promotes their health and development.

The children enjoy a good range of planned and spontaneous physical activities which enable them to explore and extend their capabilities. They are confident using the various large apparatus in the adventure play area. Children are encouraged to practise their developing skills, as they participate in a variety of outdoor ball games. Many children look forward to the planned big game of football held on one evening each week, under the supervision of a sports coach. They have many good opportunities to explore both the indoor and the outdoor environment, and are supported well by the staff working alongside them during play.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children's safety and well-being is promoted through the well prepared play space and activities provided. They have access to an excellent range of clean, safe and well organised equipment. Toys and equipment are suitable for different ages and abilities, meeting children's individual needs effectively. Children develop independence as they select from the easily accessible equipment.

Risks of accidental injury to children are minimised because staff are extremely vigilant and use thorough risk assessments to reduce potential hazards. The rooms are prepared to enable

children to select their chosen activity with excellent resources to further develop children's enjoyment and learning. Staff have a very good understanding of how to achieve a balance between freedom and setting safe limits and how to involve children effectively in organising their environment. This is to allow children opportunities to learn some sense of danger and knowledge about how to protect themselves from harm. Children learn to keep themselves safe through discussion with staff. For example, the children learn about the importance of evacuating the premises in an emergency and undertake regular practice.

The children are protected from hazards and dangers, as good safety procedures are in place. Staff have a strong awareness of the procedures to be followed regarding child protection. They have a good understanding of the policies and procedures, as well as their responsibilities to maintain a safe environment.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is outstanding.

Children are happy and settled at the setting. They enter the group enthusiastic and quickly play with their friends. Clear plans are in place to ensure all children take part in a range of interesting play and learning opportunities, providing stimulating and interesting challenges. Children are engaged in a range of superb purposeful activities, such as music, sewing, adventure play ground, imaginative play and reading. The children enjoy a range of craft activities, and their own work is attractively displayed. This promotes children's imagination, creativity and free expression in their artwork.

Children are extremely confident and self-assured and are highly motivated as they receive lots of support, encouragement and contact from the staff, this means that they feel safe and secure in the care of familiar adults. The staff are very knowledgeable about the children and they use this information well to meet their needs. The children enjoy an excellent range of activities that are appropriate for their age and stage of development. They are able to access computers and use the quiet room to complete home work if they wish.

Children have a sense of belonging, they are involved in the planning of the activities and the daily routines and discuss future events and activities for their club. The children encourage and help one another as they engage in the many and varied activities, such as making a baton to accompany their dancing and gymnastics. Children are confident and eager to learn in a comfy relaxing environment with energetic and enthusiastic staff. Children enjoy the well organised outings which are planned for the holiday club, enabling them to experience a variety of activities and challenges away from the setting, this enhances their learning in a fun way.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children have equal access to the play activities ensuring they are all valued and included. Staff are knowledgeable about the children's individual needs. These are well met in practice by familiar and consistent staff.

The children are developing a good understanding of their local community and the wider world through planned and spontaneous activities. Positive images are displayed attractively around the environment. Children celebrate a range of festivals throughout the year which incorporates the different nationalities, for example, opportunities to look at customs and festivals, such as Chinese New Year. Children with additional needs receive appropriate care and education from staff, who liaise closely with their parents. This ensures all children make rapid progress with their development and maximises opportunities for their learning.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They understand the need for safe boundaries both indoors and outside. The children respond well to the staff's requests, such as at tidy up time when asked to put the toys away. They respond well and have a very good understanding of basic rules, which children have been involved in writing, and enables them to feel safe, secure and important. This is supported by the behaviour management policy and the systems implemented by staff. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement from the staff for their achievements and efforts. This has a positive impact on their confidence and self-esteem. Children are polite, they share resources and take turns well, showing consideration for one another.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents receive very good quality information about the setting and good information is displayed on the notice board. Children benefit from the very good partnership with parents and carers. Informal discussions upon collection of children ensure parents are kept well informed about their child's day. Parents spoken to are very positive and supportive of the provision and what it offers their children. Regular newsletters keep parents up to date with current information and forthcoming activities.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The children are cared for within a well planned and organised environment. The staff are very clear about their role and responsibilities in providing a high quality service to the children and their family. Children benefit from the very good leadership of the out of school club and the consistency of staff working well together, ensuring that children are provided with good quality care. This means that children are cared for in a positive and supportive environment, which effectively promotes their social and moral development. Staff are well qualified and have much relevant experience. This has a positive effect on children's care and welfare. Staffing levels are organised to ensure that ratios are high, enabling the children to have a good level of attention and support.

Children access toys, equipment and activities which are well planned and prepared prior to the children arriving; enabling the children to feel welcome, confident and happy. Children are involved in a range of interesting and age-appropriate activities.

All legally required documentation and records relating to the children are retained ensuring that the staff are able to care for children in a safe and confident manner.

The provider makes rigorous checks to ensure staff suitability before they are employed. This ensures that the children are well safeguarded. Policies and procedures are effectively in place

and contribute to positive outcomes for children. Space and resources are organised well to promote children's safety and care.

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 setting were asked, to consider the format for the recording of accidents to ensure the setting's copy is legible. The provider has developed a system for the recording of accidents which is clear and accurate. This improves the outcomes for children in terms of being healthy.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection 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):

- consider the policy on healthy eating and its implementation to promote children's understanding of healthy options.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)