

Our Lady's Out of School Care Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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Registered person	Our Lady's Out of School Care Club Committee
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?

Our Lady's Out of School Care Club has been registered since 1997. It operates within Our Lady's Roman Catholic School in Princethorpe village, located between Rugby and Leamington Spa. Care takes place within the library and dining hall and there is a fully enclosed outdoor play area. The club serves the children who attend the school.

The club is registered to care for a maximum of 23 children under eight years of age at any one time. There are currently 50 on roll. Children attend a variety of sessions. The club is open Monday to Friday, from 07:45 to 09:00 and 15:30 until 18:00 term time only. The setting supports children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

There are three staff employed to work directly with the children most of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification. The nursery receives support from the early years department of the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children consistently follow appropriate hygiene routines and are praised by staff. They understand the need to wash their hands before snack and after using the bathroom and their independence is encouraged at all times.

Children's welfare is protected especially at times of minor accidents as all staff hold valid first aid certificates and follow appropriate practices to ensure the child's needs are met and their comfort maintained. Children benefit from a written policy that the setting shares with parents regarding illnesses that will mean their child should not attend and that they will be contacted and expected to collect their child if they become ill. Health records are maintained and emergency consent information has been obtained by most parents however, not by all. Therefore, the welfare of some children is compromised in times of emergency.

Children enjoy healthy snacks and drinks which are prepared by staff. They are involved in decisions about the foods available to them and snack time is a very social occasion. Children benefit from exercise out doors each day. The large playground and playing field enables them a lot of space to run around and play team games, of which the staff become involved. Play equipment includes balls, hoops, skipping ropes and a range of climbing equipment. Those who prefer quieter activities are able to sit, read and relax in an enclosed seated area, is shaded by trees.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an environment where staff have identified potential risks and taken appropriate steps to minimise them. Clear, concise written risk assessments which include all areas of the provision have been completed and are regularly reviewed. Security has been suitably addressed and adults and visitors can only gain access to the group via a member of staff. Staff are vigilant at all times with regard to safety and directly supervise the children both indoors and out.

Toys, equipment and furniture are well maintained and clear routines ensure they are kept clean. Children learn to keep themselves safe through the consistent reinforcement of the school rules. Children's safety is maintained through the clear procedures followed in the event of an emergency evacuation. The fire drill is practised and a record completed which are evaluated by staff in order to monitor the continued suitability of the procedure.

Children's welfare is promoted through the staff's clear understanding of child abuse and neglect. They are aware of local referral procedures and keep their knowledge of child protection issues up to date through on going training and development. A clearly written policy is in place and shared with parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's activities are organised by the staff each day and are responsive to children's requests and their known favourite activities. Resources are suitable for the age and abilities for the

children attending and all children are happy, settled and involved in play. They thoroughly enjoy outdoor play opportunities and access a variety of resources for outdoor play including hoops, balls, skipping ropes and climbing apparatus.

Staff are aware of the needs and preferences of the children and treat them as individuals, supporting and encouraging them through play. Children enjoy art and craft activities, board games, books, puzzles and are able to make informed choices. Children are confident within the daily routine and enjoy telling staff and friends the things they have been involved in during the day.

Staff are aware of their individual likes, dislikes, abilities and preferences and spend time with all the children involving themselves in their play where appropriate. Strong relationships have been formed between the staff, children and their peers and interaction is good. The age appropriate activities ensure that all children are involved and their independence is encouraged.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's individual needs and preferences are well known and respected by staff. They learn about similarities and differences through discussion and the celebration of festivals during the year. However, resources that reflect positive images of race, culture, gender and disability are very limited which restricts children's understanding of diversity and the wider world. A written policy is in place regarding special needs which details how the service will be provided to children. Although no children currently attend the setting who have learning difficulties or disabilities, staff have experience of caring for children with needs and demonstrated an understanding of how they are able to provide care which would include them in the life of the setting.

Parents benefit from clear, concise information about the club which is included in the settings prospectus. It details the care provided and all relevant policies and procedures. Daily verbal communication ensures that parents are kept up to date and informed about their child's day and any forthcoming events. Newsletters and the school website are also provided to keep parents informed and involved. Comments received from parents during the inspection were very positive. Parents are delighted with the service and their children are happy to attend.

Children are aware of rules within the club regarding behaviour and are responsive to the staff and any requests made of them. Behaviour is good. Consistent methods of dealing with behaviour are in place and staff praise and encourage the children, taking account of the differing levels of development and understanding of the children who attend.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are confident and relaxed in the routines that are in place within the setting and move safely and independently in the areas available to them. They have formed good relationships within the club and talk excitedly about their time there and the things they enjoy.

Most staff hold an appropriate early years qualification and see training as part of their on going personal development. Clear recruitment, selection and vetting procedures are in place and children are not left unattended with adults who have not been through the relevant processes.

Well-written policies and procedures are shared with parents and verbal communication takes place each day which ensures they are kept up to date and informed about their child's day. Documentation is held securely and within the boundaries of confidentiality.

Overall the children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was asked to develop a robust and rigorous system to ensure that all adults on the premises are suitably vetted. Clear procedures have now been introduced with regard to any person that is employed to work within the setting or members of the committee. Records of Criminal Record Bureau forms are held and anyone who has not been through this process is not left unattended with the children.

They were also asked to carry out rigorous risk assessments, including equipment, premises and procedures and demonstrate how you will manage access to the premises and ensure that all areas of the premises are secure and children are unable to leave them unsupervised. Detailed risk assessments have been completed and are continually added to as needed. They are reviewed regularly to ensure their suitability and to monitor the safety of the areas and of the equipment provided for the children. Since the last inspection new perimeter fencing has been installed which now ensures that the areas available to them are secure and children are unable to leave them unsupervised at any time. Staff check all areas accessed by the children each day prior to their arrival to ensure they are suitable.

Finally, staff were asked to improve their knowledge and understanding of the requirements set out in regulations and set in place a procedure to notify Ofsted of relevant matters, for example, changes to the registered person. Since the last inspection clear steps have been taken to ensure that all relevant persons are aware of the National Standards and the requirements laid out within them. Standards are readily available and used as a reference whenever needed.

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 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):

- continue to develop the resources that reflect positive images of race, culture, gender and disability
- ensure all emergency consent information is signed by parents.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk