



Lantern Lane Kids' Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY260535
Inspection date	10 October 2006
Inspector	Alexandra Brouder
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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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Lantern Lane Kids Club opened in 1996. It operates in the hall, computer area and audio visual room at Lantern Lane School in East Leake. Children also have access to the outdoor play area. The club is registered to provide 24 places for children aged between three and eight years old. Currently there are 46 children on role between the ages of three to 11 years old. Children can attend various sessions each week. The facility is available mainly to children from Lantern Lane School. They open five days a week from 15:15 to 18:00, during term time only.

Three staff are employed, all hold child care qualifications. Training courses provided by the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership have also been attended. The club has membership to Kids Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted well as they engage in a range of physical activities such as football and running games on a daily basis. In addition to this children use the school playgrounds and apparatus contained in these areas, during planned activities, thus promoting their large mobility skills. Children also have free flow play between the main hall and adjacent paved area every day, weather permitting, increasing their choice and independence.

Children develop their own personal hygiene and begin to understand the importance of this as they wash their hands before snacks and after using the toilet. Some children question the necessity of this, but staff remind them that it is for their health to ensure that they 'stop the spread of germs' before touching foods. Children's health and well-being are further promoted as staff have completed first aid training and maintain appropriate records and documentation to support this. For example, written permission from all parents and carers to seek emergency medical advice or treatment should the need arise.

Children have healthy appetites and are able to make healthy choices about the food and drink that they access. For example, toast, sandwiches on brown bread, salad and fruit. In addition to this children are able to access fresh drinking water at all times to ensure that they remain hydrated during the session. Children's well-being is safeguarded as staff ensure that all relevant information is obtained from parents and carers before children begin at the setting, and meet these needs accordingly. For example, catering for children that have nut allergies or are vegetarian.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children begin to learn about staying safe as staff remind them daily of the boundaries for play and ensure that this is promoted throughout the session. Staff explain why children cannot access other areas of the school by gentle reminders that cleaning is in progress and that they may come to harm. Children make choices from a suitable range of age and stage-appropriate resources, which are set up as they arrive, and during snack time. They safely select from these resources and staff ensure that if any are damaged that these are removed before children access them.

Children are well supervised both indoors and outside. Children are able to freely access the outdoor area adjacent to the main hall with a member of staff offering appropriate supervision. This promotes children's independence and choice in their play, and protects their welfare as staff offer continual supervision. Relevant documentation is in place to further secure children's safety at the setting through the provision of policies and procedures such as a lost and uncollected child policy. However, children do not have regular opportunities to practise the fire drill, which affects their knowledge of how to react appropriately and safely, in the event of an emergency.

Children's welfare is suitably maintained as staff have a sound knowledge of child protection procedures and a clear understanding of their responsibilities for keeping children safe and protecting them from harm.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and content in the comfortable surroundings. They settle quickly and know the routines of the setting. For example, children arrive, place their bags on the bench and sit on the mat for registration whilst two staff members complete the set up of the room. They develop their creative skills as they access a range of arts and craft materials, play dough and various role-play equipment. Their decision making skills are promoted as they can ask for equipment that is not out, as well as make choices about what they want to do throughout the session. Children's large physical skills develop as they have free flow play to the adjacent paved area. Their small muscle skills increase as they roll the play dough and learn new skills, such as knitting.

Children, in the main, show interest and concentrate on their activities. There are times that over eights become disinterested in their surroundings, although this rarely impacts on the under eights. Children take part in a range of activities that increase their understanding of sharing and taking turns. For example, as children pass the ball to each other asking what they have enjoyed about the day so far.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued as individuals. They are made welcome at the setting and are greeted by name; this increases their sense of belonging. Children take part in some activities to increase their awareness of other cultures and lifestyles, such as using jigsaws making creative activities that link to cultural festivals. Staff have experience of caring for children with learning difficulties or disabilities and ensures that an inclusive environment is offered to meet the needs of all.

Children are generally well occupied in their play, which leads to them behaving in a positive manner, most of the time. They are aware of the rules for working harmoniously and are reminded of these by staff as needed, to ensure that these are followed appropriately. Children's self-esteem and confidence increases as staff offer praise and encouragement as they play and achieve. For example, a child completed a craft activity in which she had spent a long period of time cutting and sticking. The member of staff at the table encouraged her to show all the staff, to which they responded with appropriate praise. Children over eight are made aware of how their behaviour may impact on the younger children and reminded to play appropriately with one another.

Partnerships with parents and carers is suitably promoted as staff talk to them as they drop off and/or collect their child from the group each day. They respond to any questions asked about the child's school day, for example, if the children have had any accidents at school, to ensure that children's welfare is appropriately maintained. A range of documentation is available

to parents such as policies and procedures as well as a prospectus. These are shared on entry to the group. A complaints policy is in place, but lacks up to date information on the regulators', Ofsted, contact details.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in the secure environment. They have sound relationships with staff that promotes their confidence and self-esteem well. Space and resources are organised well to ensure that children have opportunities to play actively as well as resting in comfortable areas if they wish.

Children's welfare and safety are promoted through the suitable range of documentation in place regarding children's needs, policies, and procedures that relate to the day to day running of the group. However, not all aspects of the group's documentation are maintained appropriately. For example, the daily register of attendance does not contain all necessary information regarding children and staff, which may impact on the welfare of the children.

Overall, the range of children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to ensure that the child protection procedure for the after school club complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC), develop an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met for the person in charge and person in a deputising role and to ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

Children's welfare is promoted well as the leader has developed the child protection policy to ensure that it includes up to date information on the local procedures, ensuring that staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and can react appropriately to any concerns. All staff have completed training since they were last inspected ensuring that they meet the requirements of registration. The deputy is considering training to a level three qualification. Children's awareness of other cultures and lifestyles is effectively promoted as they are able to access a range of resources that reflect positive images of others and look at various festivals throughout the year to increase their understanding.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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):

- ensure that the register of attendance shows full names of children and staff in attendance to ensure that immediate action can be taken in the event of an emergency
- ensure that the fire drill is practised on a regular basis in order to protect children's welfare
- ensure that the complaints policy contains up to date contact information for the regulator, Ofsted.

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