



## Ackworth Howard Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique Reference Number</b> | EY297558          |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 07 September 2005 |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Janet Skippins    |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Setting Address</b>    | Ackworth Howard School, Station Road, Ackworth, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 7HH |
| <b>Telephone number</b>   | 01977 722275  |
| <b>E-mail</b>             |   |
| <b>Registered person</b>  | Ackworth Howard Out of School Club  |
| <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:

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| The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding. |
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### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Ackworth Howard Out of School club opened in 2004. It is run by a voluntary management group. It operates from two rooms in Ackworth Howard CE J&I school in Low Ackworth village, outside Pontefract. It serves the school, and the playground is used for outdoor play.

The group is registered to provide care for 16 children aged 3 to 8 years. Currently there are 29 children on roll, including children over the age of 8 years who attend the school. The group opens five days a week during school term times and sessions are from 15.15 until 18.00. Children attend for a variety of sessions each week. The

club supports children with special needs and there are no children currently attending who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs four staff, two of the staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff are working towards a qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children's health is actively promoted by staff who are fully familiar with health and hygiene procedures and provide the children with regular reminders regarding hand washing before meals and after using the toilet. Children use disposable towels to dry hands, effectively minimising the risk of cross infection. They are independent in self-care skills for example, they participate in helping to prepare snacks that take into account their dietary requirements and preferences.

Children have good opportunities to enjoy physical activity, which encourages their physical development, through regular use of the school playground. They develop climbing and balancing skills as they play on the tyres which are fixed in the ground in the very large grassed area, shaded by mature weeping willow trees. Their understanding of healthy living is actively promoted through daily access to fresh fruit during snack times, regular drinks and discussion about eating and exercise. For example, children pick plums from the tree in the playground, wash and eat them, talking with staff about the health benefits of eating very fresh food.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a safe, secure and clean environment. They have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe through regular reminders from staff, for example not to open the door and to pick up toys so that they don't fall over them.

Children have some understanding of fire safety because fire evacuation notices are displayed and evacuations are practised during school hours. However, evacuations are not practised at the club. Children have access to a broad range of toys and resources that are of good quality, safe and well maintained. Children's welfare is safeguarded well as both full time members of staff hold a current first aid certificate. They have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns, in line with the local Area Child Protection Committee guidance.

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

The provision is good.

Children develop self esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions, contribute

to play ideas and self select toys and resources. They show sustained interest in a broad range of daily activities which includes various crafts such as sewing puppets. They access equipment independently through low level storage, promoting their decision making skills. Staff actively facilitate children's play and provide a high level of interaction, resulting in the children being enthusiastic and self-assured. For example, they make time to listen to the children and join in with their games.

Children have access to a broad range of well maintained toys and resources which are used to provide activities that reflect their interests and promote development, for example, books and dressing up clothes for imaginative play. They are well supported by staff who encourage them to be vocal, including daily group discussion time, creating opportunities for children to share their personal experiences and suggest play ideas. Children's social skills are actively encouraged by staff through gentle reminders, and they develop positive relationships through being considerate towards others and sharing daily tasks, for example pouring drinks at snack time. Children have regular access to outdoor play, and use equipment and play games that are age appropriate and offer suitable challenge to promote their physical development.

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy mutually respectful relationships with the staff and each other. Their individual needs regarding personal care, diets and special needs are effectively recognised and met by staff through the regular exchange of information and close liaison with the school and parents. Their understanding of the diversity of society is promoted through resources that reflect positive images of issues surrounding culture, disability and gender, for example, jigsaws, books and dressing up clothes.

Children are well behaved and have a good understanding of boundaries. Their behaviour is effectively managed through regular reminders from staff, discussions with parents and strategies that take into account their level of understanding and maturity. Children with special needs are integrated well within the group. Equipment and resources are adapted to ensure all children are able to participate fully. All children respect and understand that some children need extra help and are actively encouraged to become involved in their care.

Relationships with parents are positive. Staff make parents welcome and encourage active involvement in the group through the parent committee. A good range of policies and procedures, which contain good information contribute to the children's care and welfare and provide parents with a clear outline of the service. Because club staff also work with the children in the school they are able to ensure parents are fully informed about their child's day, this promotes continuity and consistency for the children.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children's health and enjoyment is promoted well through the effective organisation of time, enabling children to participate in a varied programme of play regularly including outdoor play. Space within the school is used to its best advantage, through the creation of designated areas for specific types of play through use of furniture and toys, enabling children to move easily and safely between activities.

The required documentation is in place, and contributes effectively to the children's care, safety and welfare, for example, policies are relevant and accident records are completed in detail. Required adult: child ratios are met, enabling a good level of supervision and support to facilitate children's play. Staff have a strong commitment to attending training to further develop their knowledge and understanding of childcare practices, and in doing so, continue to promote the children's development. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

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

There are no complaints to report.

## **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):

- practice and record emergency fire evacuations with the children
- include children's times of arrival and departure in the register of attendance.

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)