



Scooters Playclub

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY339397
Inspection date	28 September 2006
Inspector	Ann Doreen Burford
Setting Address	Hanbury C of E First School, School Road, Hanbury, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4BS
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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?

Scooters Playclub opened in 2006 and operates from Hanbury First School. It is situated in a rural location on the outskirts of Bromsgrove and Droitwich. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The setting is open each weekday from 15.00 to 18.00 term time. The club also opens during the school holidays from 08.30 to 18.00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 35 children aged from 4 to 10 years on roll. Of these, 20 are aged under 8 years. Most of the children attend Hanbury First School. The club has procedures to support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

There are two permanent members of staff and additional temporary staff are available if required. The manager holds a suitable early years qualification and the other member of staff is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The health and well being of children is promoted in the setting through staff's procedures and practices, especially in regard to their physical development and nutrition. Throughout the session children can help themselves to a drink of low-sugar juice or a piece of fruit. When children first arrive at the session they sit together to have a snack. The tables have cloth covers and good table manners are expected. This time is well organised to enable the children to unwind after their busy day at school.

Children are able to rest or be active as they wish. Lots of floor cushions are used to create a quieter area where children can look at books. They also use the excellent outdoor facilities when possible. These include an adventure area, a playing field and a lovely natural area of trees with benches and tables where children can reflect and relax. Children use the wide range of outdoor toys to develop their coordination and dexterity. They organise themselves into small groups to play team sports. Or, if they prefer, they can challenge staff to a game.

Good hygiene is followed by children and staff. Children know the procedures for good hand washing, for example they readily follow the routine to wash their hands to get ready for their snack. Tables are cleaned after snack time before using them for activities. Children's health is protected in an emergency because a member of staff with first aid training is always on duty. The strategy for dealing with children who become ill or who are infectious means other children are protected from the spread of infections.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in well maintained premises with good facilities. The village school is in good condition and is attractively decorated and great thought has been put into its ongoing improvements. It has great character and charm which creates an environment that is stimulating and clean. The club usually meets in the school hall, although alternative classroom accommodation is available if the hall is in use. The hall is well set out to enable children to move freely and safely. Children participate in a range of activities and make a choice from a suitable range of good quality toys and equipment, which meet safety requirements. The activities are set out by staff. Children can ask for additional resources at anytime during the session. All toys are kept in a storage cupboard in the main hall.

The setting has all the required procedures and documents in place to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted. Parents are appropriately kept informed on any incidents or accidents including relevant information from school. A few risk assessments have been completed and are under review for further development. The outdoor area is fully enclosed, although occasionally a gate is left open meaning the area's security is compromised.

Staff show a clear understanding of child protection procedures and take appropriate action to ensure children's needs are paramount. They have a written policy in place and their strategy is shared with parents. They have the local guidance in place to use as a reference.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

All children are keen to attend and reluctant to leave as they have so much fun. They are interested and mostly absorbed in their play. This is achieved because the children are consulted about the choice of some activities. A choice of kitchen or shop was presented to the children for them to decide on the theme for their imaginative play.

Sometimes children are able to select from resources for an activity. For example, a wide sample of art materials are set out for children to create their own masterpieces. However, sometimes there is less choice available and children do not readily get involved in this type of activity. Because of time limitations, the hall is in use by the school right up to the moment the club opens, the staff set out the activities whilst the children are having their snack. There is a planning sheet to ensure a balanced range of play opportunities are provided. The range of toys and resources is constantly being expanded and children are included in developing a wish list of additional toys when funding allows.

Children benefit from the childcare knowledge of staff. They continue to develop their understanding of childcare and education as they access ongoing relevant training. Children are valued and appreciated by the staff. They have a good relationship built on respect for each other.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel a sense of belonging because of the warm welcome and organisation for their safe arrival. They gather in the hall then line up outside whilst staff check they have the expected numbers and can chase up any late arrivals. Children wait patiently and respond to the system for checking names. Manners and a social greeting are expected. The storage cupboard in the hall has doors that can be opened wide and these are used to create the change of use from school to the children's leisure time. Their art work is displayed on one door. On the other door the space is used to keep parents informed, including all certificates and how to contact Ofsted. Children's understanding of the diverse community through play at the club is limited because there are only a few activities and resources available.

There are adequate policies and procedures in place to support the care of children with learning difficulties or disabilities. Staff liaise with parents and other professionals to identify the needs of individual children and develop appropriate strategies to meet those needs. Activities are adapted to ensure all children are included in the life of the setting.

Children are well behaved. There is a lovely relaxed atmosphere to the group. This has been achieved because the emphasis is on the setting having good regard for children's leisure time. Children and staff are respectful to one another. Children understand responsible behaviour

because they have been involved in the development of the group rules. They work harmoniously with others, activities are chosen to give children opportunities to share and take turns, for example board games.

There is a friendly relationship between staff and parents. Staff are relaxed and approachable. There is a verbal exchange of information at the end of a session and staff are vigilant about passing on information from the school if necessary. Parents are provided with written policies and procedures to ensure they understand the care the setting can provide. This approach ensures continuity for the children between home and the club.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's health, safety and enjoyment are met because of the organisation of the group. The staff work in close partnership with the school Head and Governors. This creates a stable relationship where children's happiness is a priority and supports the ongoing improvements in the group. There is an effective recruitment procedure which ensures staff are appropriately vetted and qualified. Additional support from school staff enable staffing levels to be met on busy sessions.

Policies and procedures protect children and are effectively implemented to promote all the outcomes for children. All of the required documentation is available and confidentiality is maintained. The record keeping supports the effective running of this group.

The management have high regard for the well being of all children and show commitment to improvement. A procedure is in place to include parents and children in the evaluation of the setting so areas of strengths and weaknesses can be identified. This will inform any ongoing improvements.

Overall, the needs of children are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 the 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):

- develop the risk assessments further to ensure immediate action is taken to reduce the risk of accidents and keep the premises secure
- improve the opportunities for children to self-select resources for themselves
- increase the range of activities and resources to develop children's understanding of the diverse community.

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