

Cheadle Stay And Play Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY291737
Inspection date	25 April 2007
Inspector	Julie Wright
Setting Address	Cheadle Primary School, Ashfield Road, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 1BB
Telephone number	0161 428 5026
E-mail	a.morrall@cheadlestayandplayclub.co.uk
Registered person	Angela Constance Morrall
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?

Cheadle Play and Stay Out of School club opened in 2004. It operates from Cheadle Primary School on Ashfield Road, Stockport.

The club serves children from Cheadle Primary and uses the reception room, school hall, dining room, quiet room, toilet areas and two playgrounds.

The club is registered to care for up to 70 children at any one time. Children are aged from three to 11 years and attend for a variety of sessions. There are currently 70 children on roll. The group is open five days a week, during the school term, from 07.50 to 08.50 and 15.10 to 17.45. The group is planning to provide holiday care.

There are four staff who work with the children. Three staff have early years qualifications to National Vocational Qualification Levels 2 and 3, one member of staff is working towards a recognised early year's qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children develop a good awareness of health and well-being as they take part in stimulating activities. For example, during 'Health and Safety' week a gym instructor attends the morning session. Children benefit from the fitness exercises and learn about good health routines. Clear policies and procedures are effectively implemented by the staff. Children follow good hygiene practices and show competence in their personal care. Three staff have current first aid certificates and children are protected from the risk of illness and infection, which promotes their health and welfare.

Healthy breakfasts and after school snacks are provided for the children. They make independent choices from an appetising range of fresh foods. Children are well hydrated with access to drinks throughout the session. Individual dietary requirements are met well in the setting, with appropriate records made to ensure that the children's personal needs are met.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities which promote their physical skills and coordination. For instance, they take part in curling competitions and practice balancing skills with different types of equipment. They benefit from regular outdoor play opportunities, which is by their individual choice.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are well cared for in a warm and welcoming environment. The club has a calm and pleasant atmosphere in which children feel safe and secure. They are familiar with the setting and make confident choices in where they want to play. They follow the routines well, such as sitting together for register time, selecting their snacks and then choosing an activity. Premises are suitably maintained and all areas used effectively to meet the needs of the children. A wide range of toys and equipment are available for indoor and outdoor play activities.

Regular risk assessments and routine safety checks ensure that hazards to children are minimised. Children are well supervised and they understand the safety rules. For example, they must ask staff before they leave any of the play areas to go elsewhere. Extensive health and safety policies are in place to promote the children's welfare.

Staff attend appropriate training to ensure that their knowledge and understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures is up to date. Parents are clearly informed of the relevant policy and the responsibilities to protect children. The procedures in place safeguard the welfare of the children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and relaxed in the setting. They form very good relationships with staff and have firm friendships within the group. Children are sociable, confident and cooperative as they move around and play. They benefit from a well planned programme of activities, which includes plenty of time for independent play. Children use the quiet areas to read and relax, or sit comfortably to watch the television. The care needs of the youngest children in the group are

effectively met. They particularly enjoy the imaginative role play areas and resources. The group also has access to the nursery toys and equipment, which provides additional interest for the younger children. For example, they use sand in the playground and investigate small world creatures, such as the mini-beasts.

Staff interact very well with the children, providing a good balance of support to their play. Children enjoy focussed creative activities, sports and board games. The aim of the group is for the children to enjoy being there and have fun, which is clearly achieved. Photographs provide evidence of children engaged in topical activities, such as an egg hunt and apple dunking. Children plant the school window boxes and are proud of their achievements. They show a clear sense of belonging and happily talk about what they like to do at the club. The outdoor play areas provide children with opportunities to play ball games, use a variety of physical play equipment, or to practise hand stands on the suitable safety surface.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children develop positive attitudes as they take part in events and activities which reflect diversity. They show care and concern for each other, for example, the older children like to help with the younger children. Their individual needs are clearly known and effectively met in the setting. Staff provide additional support and implement sound policies and procedures to promote inclusion.

Children are very well behaved in the group. They play constructively and show a good understanding of the expectations of behaviour. Staff promote good behaviour with positive and consistent strategies. For example, they reinforce the school system in awarding a 'star of the week'. Children enjoy the reward of extra responsibilities, such as by helping the staff. They are proud of their artistic contributions, which have been included in a publicised book. Self-esteem is further promoted with the children's creative displays in the school canteen.

Staff promote positive working relationships with parents. There are clear procedures in place to share information, which ensure consistent care for children. Parents have access to all the policies and relevant information on the setting. Staff consult with parents to seek their ideas and opinions on the provision. Parents provide positive feedback on the quality of care at the club.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from the well organised care of the consistent staff team. Space and time are used efficiently and effectively to provide the children with positive experiences. Recruitment and vetting procedures are in place, however, they are not secure enough to fully ensure the health suitability of staff. Records and documentation are accurately maintained and meet regulatory requirements. Comprehensive policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and updated, which contribute to the welfare of the children.

Staff continue to improve and develop their practice in order to ensure good quality care. They attend appropriate training to update knowledge and awareness in childcare practices. They regularly monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision and identify areas which they would like to enhance. Since the last inspection the group has achieved a Quality Assurance award from the local authority.

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 provider was asked to ensure that electrical leads and drains are inaccessible to children. Also to further develop policies and procedures regarding: the complaints procedure to include Ofsted's address; the special needs policy to make reference to confidentiality and the child protection policy to incorporate details of procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff, and to ensure that parents are informed about the child protection policy.

Since then suitable measures have been taken to ensure that children do not have access to electrical leads and drains. All policies and procedures contain comprehensive information and parents are clearly informed about the child protection policy. These actions result in improvements to the welfare of the children.

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):

- improve the vetting and recruitment procedures to ensure the health suitability of staff

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