



Underwood Out of School Care

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY296491
Inspection date	16 June 2005
Inspector	Ros Church
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Registered person	Underwood Out of School Care
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?

Underwood Out of School Club registered in 2004. It operates from the Underwood Church of England Primary School, in Underwood, Nottinghamshire. The club have access to the school hall, IT suite, kitchen and toilet facilities and the school playground.

A maximum of 16 children may attend at any one time. The club opens term time only, Monday to Friday 07:45 to 08:45, 15:30 to 18:00. There are currently 30 children aged 5 to 11 years on roll. The club supports children with special needs.

The club employs three staff throughout the week. Of these, two have early years qualifications, one member of staff is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children understand the importance of personal hygiene through following routines, such as washing hands before snacks. Hygiene is supported appropriately by staff who have a sound knowledge of the club's hygiene procedures. Children are well protected, staff take suitable steps to prevent the spread of infection, there is a clear sickness policy. However, not all the required information is included in accident records, medication records and written consents from parents are not in place, to ensure staff are able to meet all individual needs of the children when administering medication.

Children are beginning to learn about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and diet. They regularly enjoy a substantial snack of sandwiches or toast with a preferred filling or topping, followed by fruit, which has regard to individual identified dietary needs. Children have some opportunities to play outside, however, this is limited and not used to best effect to encourage physical activities.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment, where they feel settled and secure. They use a suitable and accessible range of play materials, which are safe, clean, and generally meet the needs of the range of children attending. Children begin to learn how to keep themselves safe, through simple safety rules and explanations from staff, such as how to use scissors safely during craft activities. Staff take appropriate practical measures, including careful attention to supervision to maintain children's safety.

Children are generally protected because staff understand their role in child protection, and are able to take appropriate action in the event of any concerns about a child. However, staff do not have the governments current guidelines.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are relaxed and contented at the club, they talk confidently about the things they enjoy, such as the various craft activities and use of computers on which they play games or write stories and poems. Children are interested in the good range of activities provided, they make choices in their play and access equipment and resources independently. Children learn to develop new skills, such as during a craft

activity they use fine manipulative skills to sew on sequins.

Good relationships are developing between the children and staff, this creates a warm and friendly atmosphere. Children join in with their peers, sharing equipment and taking turns, such as whilst playing games and setting up construction activities. Children's confidence is developing, through positive encouragement from staff, such as praising children for their achievements.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. They enjoy each other's company and are at ease in their play. Their good behaviour is appropriately fostered by the staff's positive reinforcement. Staff and parents share necessary information regarding children's health, dietary and care needs, enabling these to be met. Staff recognise the need to liaise with parents to establish the care requirements of any child with identified special needs. Generally good information including some policies are available within the clubs handbook, however, more detailed information and additional policies are not easily accessible.

Children sometimes take part in activities reflecting cultural diversity, for example craft activities linked to specific festivals such as Diwali and Chinese New Year. However, resources are not available to support children's independent learning about society or to foster a positive attitude towards similarities and differences.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are happy in the relaxed environment and begin to develop settled relationships and interest in the activities. The registered person uses suitable recruitment procedures which ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified. The induction programme and teamwork make sure staff work well together to promote children's safety, enjoyment and achievement. However, procedures are not sufficiently rigorous to ensure that medication policies are followed, to ensure children's individual care needs are met. Staff continue to develop their childcare knowledge through attendance at on-going training covering, for example, first aid and child protection, to enable them to provide generally good levels of care to benefit the children. The provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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 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 all records, policies and procedures for the safe and efficient management of the provision are in place, understood and implemented by staff, with reference to accident and medication records and procedures; ensure all policies and procedures are easily accessible to staff and parents
- develop the use of the outdoor area to increase opportunities for children to be physically active
- develop the range of resources to foster children's awareness of the wider world and to increase children's understanding of the lives of others.

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