



Ladybirds

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY337990
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Inspector	Sarah Morfett
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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?

Ladybirds Out of School Club opened in 2006 and is run by a private provider. It operates from several rooms in Days Lane Primary School. It is situated in Sidcup in the London borough of Bexley. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. Children aged from four to under eight years attend the group. The out of school club is open each weekday, running a breakfast club in the morning and an after school club from 15:15 to 18:00 term time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

Children come from a local catchment area. The out of school club employs three staff all of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a clean environment where they follow suitable hygiene routines. For example, they wash their hands before eating and after going to the toilet. They know that this helps to keep them well; they say 'if we don't wash our hands we will get germs in our tummies and then we will get ill'. They are protected from cross infection as children who are unwell do not attend. Children taking on-going medication for illnesses, such as, eczema or asthma needs are met because of the clear procedures in place. Accident records, record suitable detail of the accidents, these are shared with parents. Therefore, children's health and well-being is protected by the suitable procedures in place.

Children have ample space inside and out to be active. Inside they enjoy physical games, such as twister where they manage to bend and shape their bodies according to the instructions. Children benefit from healthy snacks and meals. They are able to choose from a selection of foods that are good for them during tea time. For example, they can help themselves to bread, cheese, tomatoes and cucumber and select their own spreads to put on the bread. They are offered drinks during the session. However, they do not have access to fresh water at all times. Children's dietary requirements are recorded and staff ensure the food meets their needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have suitable space to play in. They can use a variety of rooms in the school, such as, the computer room, the hall and the music room which is the main play area. The environment is clean and tidy; toys are in suitable condition and are appropriate for the ages of the children attending. Safety equipment used is suitable and the staff carry a risk assessment out each session to ensure it is in place. This allows children to move around safely and benefit from the adequately organised environment.

Children learn to keep themselves safe as the group hold regular fire drills. They are held on a different day each week, therefore, all the children are able to participate and have equal chance to learn safety rules. For example, children know they go to the playground, from the nearest exit, when the alarm rings. Clear records of this procedure are kept which ensures that it is effective in an emergency situation.

Children's welfare is protected by the clear procedures in place. For example, the safeguarding children policy states the group's duty of care towards the children attending. There is a clear procedure included to protect staff from allegations of abuse. The staff demonstrate a sound understanding of what to do if they were to have a concern about a child in their care. All children's welfare is promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in the warm and welcoming environment. They make independent choices from the range of activities that are laid out for them to access. There is also a range of toys on the shelves which they can help themselves to if they want to. Therefore, children are able to make choices about what they play with.

Children are able to relax and have fun after school. A variety of activities are available which are suited to the children's needs. For example, they can relax and read a book or be physical playing a game such as twister, most days they enjoy being active in the school's well equipped playground. The children say that they love playing outside and talk about the climbing apparatus that they play on.

Children play well together. They cooperate when following the rules of twister, and take it in turns to spin the wheel. The children get more and more tangled bending their bodies to the instructions, this causes lots of laughter. Children develop good relationships in the fun and lively out of school club.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are treated with respect and their individual needs are acknowledged. When they first start their personal requirements are recorded on the child information form. Details such as, medical, religious and dietary considerations are noted. Children with Learning difficulties and/or disabilities are welcome, however, there are no children attending at present. There is a good representation of diversity about the school, in the Out of School club room there is a suitable reflection of the variety of cultures which attend the group. An adequate range of resources reflects positive images of diversity. Staff discuss festivals and celebrations with the children and they eat food from different cultures at tea time. Therefore, the children are learning about peoples differences.

Children behave well at the group. Praise and encouragement is used to help them learn right from wrong. Appropriate strategies, according to the age and stage of development help to maintain good behaviour. For example, staff talk to them at their level, they ask them to say sorry, they discuss what they have done and if needs be time out is used as a last resort.

Parents are informed of the care their children receive. A range of policies and procedures are given to them when their children start and the notice board in the room keeps them up-to-date with events and changes. Parents report that they are happy with the service the group are providing and say their children are very happy.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children play in a suitably organised environment. They benefit from ample space to move around in. Systems are in place to ensure the adults working with children are suitable to do

so. The registration certificate is displayed and the necessary records are in place and shared with parents. These include daily attendance records and the lost and uncollected child policies.

The group's operational plan is in place. This is divided into the 14 National Standards. It is a useful document and clearly details the aims and objectives of the group. A range of policies and procedures underpin the adequate practice of the group. The children are supported by qualified and experienced staff and generally the adult to child ratio is met. However, on the day of inspection the minimum ratio was not maintained. This is a breach in regulation and impacts on the children's safety. All documentation is in place and maintained to a satisfactory standard, this is stored confidentially. The provider is committed towards the continuing improvement of the provision. Overall, the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

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 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 the minimum ratio is met at all times.
- ensure that children have access to fresh drinking water at all times.

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