



## **Clover Hill Out Of School Club**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY331438
<b>Inspection date</b>	29 September 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Julie Larner
<b>Setting Address</b>	Clover Hill Community Primary School, Glenhurst Drive, Wickham, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE16 5SJ
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<b>Registered person</b>	Team Valley Nursery Limited
<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:

The quality and standards of the care are inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Clover Hill After School Club is run by Team Valley Nursery Ltd. It is based within Clover Hill Primary School, which is situated in the Whickham area of Gateshead. The children have access to a reception classroom, community room, library and the main school hall. There is also an enclosed outdoor play ground. The After School club offers care for a maximum of 26 children aged from three to under eight years. The breakfast club opening times are from 07.30 to 08.55 and the after school club operating times are from 15.15 to 18.00. The provision operates five days per week, term time only. Two members of staff have been employed to manage the breakfast club and out of school club, both have a relevant childcare qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy nutritious foods, such as beans on toast and fromage frais. Staff collect clear information about dietary needs from parents to ensure that they can meet the children's needs when they prepare snacks in the group. Snack time is a social occasion where children talk about their day and enjoy conversations with staff. They are keen to independently pour juice as staff encourage them to develop these skills.

Children are cared for in a warm and clean environment, however, staff's practice is not always consistent to ensure good hygiene and prevent cross infection at snack time. Children know that they must wash their hands before snack time and encourage other children to do the same. The room is maintained by cleaners on a daily basis, however, they clean the room while the group is operating. Sprays of cleaning liquid are squirted and left on the table meaning staff are not fully in control of minimising the risks to children.

Children relish outdoor play. They have great fun playing chase with staff. Children enjoy challenging themselves and staff support them to help balance across ropes and bridges in the adventure playground. Children are keen to play different games which staff support well, for example, they play pass with a ball with the children.

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

The provision is inadequate.

Children are beginning to learn about safety due to staff providing appropriate explanations to them, for example, staff tell them why they should sit on their chairs properly to stop them from hurting themselves. Staff show an adequate awareness of how they ensure the areas that children use are safe, by checking areas for sharp edges and using a temperature gauge. The room is consistently checked by staff with a list which is completed on a daily basis. Whilst the procedures to ensure children are cared for in areas free from hazards are in place, staff practice does not always reflect their ability to identify potential risks to children. A lack of supervision of children when they go to the toilet is inappropriate and does not contribute to children's welfare.

Children choose from equipment that is available to them where they are cared for. They confidently make choices about what they want to play with, for example they pick bean bags out of the school cupboard and enjoy drawing pictures on the white board. However, due to the groups equipment being stored in the hall and them using a classroom for most of the session, there are not sufficient challenges for older children and choices are limited.

Children's welfare is safeguarded in relation to child protection as staff have an adequate knowledge of the procedures and policies, because of this they would pass on concerns to the relevant agencies.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have positive relationships with staff and other children. They are keen to share their experiences, and staff take an interest in what children say, for example, children talk about their siblings, friends and families. They confidently express themselves, such as asking to draw and talk to other children about what they are doing.

Children thoroughly enjoy outdoor play with staff. They comfortably approach staff for support due to the secure and warm relationships they have built with them in a short amount of time. Staff respond well to children and their interests such as helping them to balance on the adventure playground. Children and staff laugh as they chase each other around the field.

Children receive good support from staff, they enjoy reading books with them and talking about what happened. Sessions are based on free play choices for children, whilst staff encourage some choices, there is a lack of planned activities to stretch children's development. Children are confident communicators and staff help them to contribute to the session by asking them what they want to do.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Partnerships with parents are friendly. Some parents are very complimentary about the setting and staff, one parent comments that they 'can't get their children to go home'. Children's individual needs are met due to staff collecting and sharing relevant information about the children. Discussions with parents on a daily basis ensure they are fully informed about the care of their child, whilst formal newsletters ensure that parents are kept updated with what is happening in the group.

Children behave well as staff provide good role models. They encourage children to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Children's achievements are praised and valued by staff, for example, when children are throwing and catching balls successfully, staff and other children clap for them. Children take care of their environment as they tidy away toys and equipment.

Staff show an adequate understanding of equal opportunities and because of this children feel comfortable in the setting and play with all the equipment that is available. Policies and procedures ensure that children's individual needs are met.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is inadequate.

Thorough procedures for recruitment ensure that staff are suitable to work with children and sound induction procedures ensure staff are aware of their roles within the group. Deployment of staff in the session is not always effective to ensure children's safety and welfare. On occasion, staff are left alone in the classroom with children for long periods while snack is prepared by other staff. Staff work together adequately, for example, they share information about children.

Staff's use of resources is adequate to ensure that children enjoy their time at the setting, for example, they get out the lego and play with children catching and throwing balls in the hall. Staff's use of space does not create an adequate environment that offers access to a range of activities to promote children's development successfully. Children are cared for in different rooms during the session such as, a reception classroom and the school hall and staff do not set up these areas to ensure that they are stimulating for the children's play.

Paperwork is kept in a confidential manner, however it is not always easily accessible due to being stored in the hall.

Overall, the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure that children are supervised at all times
- ensure staff use space well, for example, by making certain areas are welcoming to children and they offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote children's development
- ensure that staff are deployed effectively within the premises to ensure the safety and welfare of children

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)