



Bramley After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	110421
Inspection date	19 October 2006
Inspector	Lynne Elizabeth Lewington
Setting Address	BRAMLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL, BRAMLEY LANE, TADLEY, HAMPSHIRE, RG26 5AH
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Registered person	Bramley After School Club
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?

Bramley After School Club provides after school care for children attending the Bramley Primary School. It has been registered since July 2000. It operates from the school hall within Bramley Primary School and at times also uses some of the class rooms.

The after school club is registered to care for 24 children aged between four and eight years who attend the school. Children aged up to 11 years are also cared for. There are currently 33 children aged from four to eight years on roll. The club opens every weekday during school term time from 15:10-18:00.

Eight part-time staff work with the children. Three members of staff hold early years childcare qualifications or Play work to National Vocational Qualification level 3. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP). The club are also members of the four Children Network and Out of School Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a variety of good quality nutritious food each evening. An emphasis on healthy eating in the school is encouraged in the club where the children enjoy a simple healthy tea of wholemeal sandwiches with a filling of their choice and slices of fruit and vegetables. Healthy drinks of fresh milk, orange juice and water ensure the children do not become thirsty in the session.

Positive good hygiene routines limit the spread of infection in the setting. For example, the tables are cleaned thoroughly before and after use, and the children routinely wash their hands before and after tea. The staff follow sensible good hygiene routines when serving food, setting a good example to the children.

Children benefit positively from the opportunities each day to play in the playground. They run, jump, and play football developing their physical skills and enjoying the opportunities to shout and use their energy. Indoors the children undertake quieter activities requiring concentration and good hand and eye co-ordination. For example, they make jewellery, by threading small beads and play magnetic darts.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Good care is taken to ensure the children's safety whilst they attend the after school club. The well maintained premises are secure and daily risk assessments enable the staff to monitor the provision and resources efficiently. Toys, games and equipment are suitable for the ages and stages of development for the children.

Children learn to show consideration for their own safety and the safety of others as they play both indoors and out. They all attend the school and so the club reflects the school rules enabling the children to have consistent information. For example, following the school routine for fire drills enables the children to understand what they need to do in the event of a fire on the premises. Good consideration has been given to the collection of children and a system is in place to safeguard the children if someone different comes to collect them.

Staff follow a clear child protection policy and undertake training regarding child protection ensuring they competently safeguard children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children appear happy and settled and enjoy most of their time at the after school club. They all benefit from the daily outdoor activity session where they participate in ball games, chase each other and generally 'let off steam' as they shout and act out imaginary games. Indoors they make independent choices from a range of planned craft activities, toys and games,

confidently moving between the activities they wish to undertake. Staff encourage the children's interest well as they listen and respond enthusiastically to them. Positive relationships between staff and children develop as they talk and laugh together. Some children make use of a quiet area where they can do their homework if they wish whilst others enjoy the craft activities.

The session is generally planned well and includes ideas from the children, however the start of the session is lengthy and the children remain unoccupied for a long length of time before the register is taken and they receive their tea. They become bored and some find it hard to co-operate with the staff and each other.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are valued and respected as individuals. Good communication with parents ensures individual needs are understood and met appropriately. Children undertake a variety of activities which increase their awareness of the wider world and cultural traditions. For example, children colour pictures of Divali lights and the staff talk to them about the lights.

The children generally behave well and respond appropriately to the staff, who show a good understanding of the children's development and their needs. The children play games which encourage their ability to take turns and their sense of fairness. The staff act as good role models, dealing with conflict calmly, setting an appropriate example to the children. However, the children do not help with any of the tasks associated with the club. For example, they walk away from games leaving the pieces spread around and on the floor. This does not encourage their respect for property and the value of their club resources.

Partnership with parents is good. Parents are confident, and happy in the service offered. They are kept well informed by the staff who greet parents warmly as they arrive and share information verbally and via a regular newsletter. Policies are clearly displayed in a folder at the entrance for parents to see if they wish and a large notice board provides important information.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. The staff team are well qualified and there are sound procedures in place to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The enthusiastic staff work well as a team. Regular team meetings enable the staff to review and plan the service they offer. The manager is proactive; she seeks opinions and recognises areas for improvement in the club.

Children are confident and 'at home' in the environment where good care is taken to encourage their awareness of good health and safety. Policies, procedures and records work in practice to promote children's enjoyment and well being. However, the policy regarding complaints does not reflect parents ability to see a record of complaints if they wish.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was asked to improve accident documentation to promote confidentiality, to ensure parents were aware of the policies and procedures and that fire evacuations were undertaken and records maintained. The policies and procedures are now clearly available on the signing in desk, evacuations are practised each half term and the recording of accidents promotes confidentiality.

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 information for parents with regard to their access to the complaints record
- improve the after school session to ensure children have access to worthwhile activities on arrival
- encourage the children's responsibilities within the club to promote their sense of ownership and respect for the resources available.

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