



Children of Summerhill Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY300633
Inspection date	20 October 2006
Inspector	Sue Davey
Setting Address	Summerhill Infant School, Clouds Hill Road, St George, Bristol, BS5 7LE
Telephone number	07794 257676
E-mail	
Registered person	Children of Summerhill
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?

Children of Summerhill is an out of school provision for children attending Summerhill Infant and Junior schools, and subject to places, is open to children from the local area. It has been registered since 2005 but reopened in 2006 after a temporary closure. The setting operates primarily in the infant school and provides a breakfast club, after school club and holiday playscheme. The junior school may also be used in emergencies. Children have use of designated areas in the school including the hall, library and cookery room. They also have access to the schools' outside play spaces. The breakfast and after-school clubs run each weekday during school term times, from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.15 to 18.00 respectively. The holiday playscheme opens during some holiday periods from 08.30 to 18.00.

Currently there are 21 children on roll, of these 17 are aged under eight years. The setting can support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities; and those who speak English as an additional language. Senior staff hold relevant childcare qualifications to level 3. A voluntary parent committee manages the setting.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is adequately promoted as staff follow procedures to minimise the spread of infection. For example, they do not admit children who are ill or infectious; they remind children to wash their hands before eating or cooking; and they prepare food hygienically. Staff hold up-to-date certificates in first aid and know what to do if an accident occurs. They make a record of accidents and incidents, and parents sign the entry. There are appropriate procedures in place for the administration of medication but as yet, this has not been necessary. Staff obtain relevant information from parents and consequently, are well aware of children with food allergies or specific dietary needs.

Children enjoy a variety of healthy food and snacks. They choose from a selection of low sugar cereals, yogurt, fresh fruit and toast for breakfast. After school, they enjoy fresh and dried fruits, pita breads or sandwiches with savoury toppings. Drinks are available at any time and staff encourage children to drink more after physical activities. Children have access to outside play spaces. They enjoy the challenge of the adventure playground, known as the Trail Blazer, and during fine weather, use the school field. Indoors, children use the school hall for physical play, such as diligently practicing their coordination skills with badminton racquets and shuttlecock. However, there is little provision for children to rest and relax in comfort.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The school premises provide an attractive and child friendly environment for children to play out of school hours. The building and grounds are fully enclosed making it a very secure site for children. There is a doorbell entry system so that staff can easily monitor access to the setting and they keep a record of all visitors. Staff know in advance which children should be attending each day. They escort children to and collect them from their classes. As an extra safety check, parents sign their children in and out of each session. The toys and resources are in good condition and staff carry out daily safety checks on the premises and equipment. There are some risk assessments in place although they do not cover all areas used by children or the activities they take part in, such as cookery. Children's welfare is further safeguarded as staff understand their responsibilities regarding child protection. Staff have received training in this area and they know where to seek advice should concerns arise.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are very happy and settled in the club. They make best use of the play opportunities currently available and enjoy taking part in planned activities. The toys and materials provided are of good quality, although they are somewhat limited in number. Staff plan a range of suitable activities throughout the week but are open to children choosing to do something else. Planned activities include art and craft, cooking, physical activities indoors and outside, as well as quieter pursuits such as pencil and paper games. Children offer their own suggestions,

which staff include if appropriate. Children make good use of dressing-up clothes and role-play equipment. They teach each other the rules and strategies of board games such as chess and create imaginary worlds with the train and road systems. Cooking is a popular activity. For example, the children enjoyed making individual pizzas, which they ate at snack time. Staff build good relationships with the children. They join in with their play and spend time listening and talking to them. The current situation with small numbers of children, mean that staff get to know them well.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The out of school club facilities are available to all children attending Summerhill Infant and Junior Schools. Children from the local area are also welcome if places allow. The provision is fully inclusive and respectful of children's individuality. Staff plan activities to meet all abilities and a range of interests. They ask children for suggestions and together compile a 'wish list' for new equipment when funds allow. Currently there are no children attending the clubs who have learning difficulties or disabilities. However, staff have a positive attitude toward caring for children with special needs and the playleader is very experienced in this area.

Children behave well and generally cooperate with each other. Some children need reminding to share and take turns while others show patience and enthusiasm as they teach their friends a new game. Staff praise and encourage children when practising new skills and they delight in their achievements. Children feel at home in their school building but have little sense of ownership within the club. This is because currently, children have to use the main hall for most of their activities. The large impersonal area has no cosy corners; limited storage facilities means limited resources; and there is nowhere to display children's work. However, there are planned changes to address this situation with the allocation of a separate classroom.

Staff build good relationships with parents and regularly talk to them about their child's wellbeing. They seek detailed information at the start of the placement to make sure they care for children according to parent's wishes. All parents receive written information about the out of school facilities, its policies and procedures. There is a system to record and respond to any complaints made by parents, and the committee ensures that parents are closely involved with the running of the club.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

A voluntary committee of parents manages the setting. They have a clear understanding of their responsibilities regarding recruitment practice and monitoring the effectiveness of the out of school facilities. Consequently, all staff are thoroughly vetted before employment and they take part in a regular appraisal system. Staff are well deployed to provide good supervision and consistent care for children. In order to maintain continuity, some members of the committee work with the children if staff are absent for any reason. They also have a contingency plan to use the junior school if there is a problem with the infant school premises. The committee and

staff make sure that all regulatory documentation is in place and records are up to date. 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 complaint 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):

- further develop the range of resources and activities throughout sessions
- provide a comfortable area for children to rest and relax
- extend risk assessments to include specific activities and all areas used by children.

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