



Sallywags Kids Group

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	254492
Inspection date	14 November 2006
Inspector	Jayne Lesley Taylor
Setting Address	Pinfold Street JMI School, Pinfold Street Extension, Darlaston, Walsall, West Midlands, WS10 8PU
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Registered person	Sallywags Kids Management Committee
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 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?

Sallywags Kids Group opened in 1998 and operates from a mobile classroom in Pinfold Street School. It is situated in Darlaston, a suburb of Walsall. A maximum of 16 children may attend the group at any one time. The group is open each weekday from 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:30 to 17:30 during school term time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 30 children aged from four to under eight years on roll. Children attending the group come from Pinfold Street School. The group supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also children who speak English as an additional language.

The group employs two members of staff, both of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to level 2 and are working towards level 3.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children understand the importance of good personal hygiene through established routines, they know when they need to wash their hands, for example after using the toilet. Staff follow procedures and routines which ensure that the spread of infection is minimised, resulting in children's health needs being met. Children have regular opportunities to play outdoors and can rest or relax as they wish, meeting their individual requirements. The setting has procedures for informing parents of accidents or incidents. However, children's health and well-being is potentially compromised because not all records contain children's names and parents are not always requested to sign the records to acknowledge the entry.

Children have drinks readily available to them throughout the session and have extra water available if they need it, ensuring that they do not become thirsty or dehydrated. Staff monitor that the children have a drink and remind them if they think that the children need it. Children have a light snack, for example, biscuits, toast or fruit. They choose where they want to sit, and talk to each other about what has happened in school or discuss what they will be doing later.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in premises that are safe and secure. They are able to move safely around the room, going freely from activity to activity without disrupting each other. Staff bring the younger children over from the main school ensuring their safe arrival, older children walk over themselves and staff monitor their arrival. Children keep themselves safe, they know that they must not leave the building without a member of staff, for example when they wish to use the toilets in the main school.

A range of equipment is in place that the children use freely and safely, it is suitable for their ages and levels of accomplishment, therefore meeting their individual needs. Resources are safely stored and are readily available which encourages children's independence when self-selecting. Children's safety and well-being is promoted because staff check equipment and the environment daily. Staff directly supervise children at all times, which ensures their safety. Children regularly practise how to exit the building in an emergency which is extending their overall understanding of safety issues and how to keep themselves safe.

Children are protected because staff have an understanding of child protection procedures and of their individual roles and responsibilities regarding protecting children in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled and enjoy themselves in the group, where they are occupied throughout the times that they attend. All activities available are appropriate for the ages and interest of

the children. A suitable level of support and guidance from the staff is helping children to develop sound relationships with adults and their peers. Children are able to initiate their own play and make choices about what they would like to do, which supports their confidence and self-esteem.

Weekly planning ensures that children access a range of activities and experiences that takes into account their levels of abilities and interests, for example sewing, puppets, art and craft, imaginative play and table top activities. They also have the opportunity to complete their homework if they wish to. Children play well together, they share and take turns which encourages them to think of their own, and other children's needs and wishes.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have a positive attitude about themselves, which is supported by the staff caring for them. Staff encourage the children to take part in activities and offer them support and guidance if they need it, at a level that they are comfortable with. A balance of trust between the children and the staff fosters good relationships. Staff are aware of the children's individual needs and ensure that they are cared for appropriately.

Children's understanding of differences is supported by a range of appropriate resources.

Children's behaviour is satisfactory, they are acknowledged by the staff, who act as role models. They play well together with friends of varying ages at a variety of activities. Children understand what is expected of them and will, at times, censure each other. Staff remind the children to apologise to each other, this re-enforces the children's understanding of right and wrong and encourages them to think of other people's feelings.

Parents receive information about the group when their children first begin attending. Staff talk to parents when they collect the children, passing on any relevant information so that parents are fully updated, ensuring that their wishes are met.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children are being cared for by staff who have been vetted, have some experience in childcare and have an understanding of play needs. However, the supervisor does not currently hold a relevant child care qualification required for the post held. Therefore children's care and learning is not fully supported.

Communication between staff ensures that they work together for the benefit of the children. The effective use of space ensures that children are cared for and supported during their time at the club.

Most required documentation is in place. However the system for registering children does not show their hours of attendance. Therefore children's safety and well-being is potentially

compromised. Details of children's individual needs are recorded, which supports the staff in caring for them appropriately. Overall children's needs are not met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was required to ensure children's safety by conducting a risk assessment specifically with regard to emergency and security lighting and to ensure that the group's child protection procedure complied with local Area Child Protection Committee procedures. An action plan was also required detailing how the supervisors of the group would achieve a level 3 qualification. The provider also agreed to obtain a list of notifiable infectious diseases.

The provider has made some progress in completing the required actions and the recommendation from the last inspection. Documentation has now been acquired and updated, detailing relevant information to support staff practice. Children's care and learning is not fully supported because the provider has failed to comply with the action requiring the supervisors to obtain a level 3 qualification required for the post held. This has been raised as an action for this inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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:

- provide an action plan detailing how supervisors will complete a level 3 qualification by January 2007
- ensure that children's hours of attendance are recorded

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