



## Stafford Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY331880
<b>Inspection date</b>	22 November 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Julie Mary Preston
<b>Setting Address</b>	Castlechurch Primary School, Tennyson Road, Stafford, ST17 9SY
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<b>Registered person</b>	Stafford Kids Club Ltd
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day 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](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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The out of school club and wrap-around nursery is one of three settings run by Stafford Kids Club Ltd. It opened in 2001, with the wrap-around nursery registered in 2006 when the registration changed from an individual private provider to the limited company. The out of school care operates from a classroom and side room in Castlechurch Primary School. The wrap-around nursery operates from the school's nursery unit. It is situated in a residential area on the outskirts of Stafford, Staffordshire. A maximum of 24 children may attend the nursery and out of school club at any one time. The nursery and out of school club are open each weekday from 07:50 to 18:00 term time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The nursery and out of school club employs four staff. Two of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. Three staff are working towards a qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children who attend both the nursery and the out of school club are cared for in a warm, clean environment, where the procedures implemented by the staff help children learn the importance of staying healthy. They are acquiring an understanding of hygiene as they wash their hands after using the toilet and before and after meals and snacks. Staff understand the procedures for dealing with existing injuries, accidents and administration of medication. However, details of the times parents require medication to be administered is not recorded. This means detailed accurate medication records are not in place.

The benefits of a healthy diet are shared with children through discussion and by encouragement from staff to partake in the variety of fruit and drinks provided. Children are given regular access to drinks and snacks that ensure they are not hungry or thirsty. For example, children are provided with regular drinks at meal and snack times within the wrap-around nursery and out of school children independently access a water fountain. The staff work in partnership with parents to meet children's individual dietary needs, including those who have specific dietary requirements such as, children who attend with nut allergies. If parents provide children's meals and snacks these are appropriately stored and served. This ensures individual dietary needs are met. Staff are aware of good hygiene practices with regards to food preparation and storage and implement this knowledge within their practise.

Children enjoy a range of activities that contribute to their good health. Regular indoor and outdoor activities help children develop physical skills and gain control of their bodies. For example, children regularly use the playground areas for outdoor play and the wrap-around nursery also access the covered veranda. Children are given opportunities to rest in line with parental wishes and individual children's needs.

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

The provision is good.

The environment provided both within the wrap-around nursery and the out of school club is well organised, warm and welcoming for children who attend. Staff are diligent in ensuring possible risks are identified and minimised. They monitor access to the provision at all times to ensure satisfactory security arrangements for children, especially when using the outdoor area that parents gain access to the provision across. The staff also develop children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe. For example, children learn to keep themselves safe by adhering to the behaviour guidelines identified in each provision. Safety equipment is in place and appropriately maintained. Emergency evacuation procedures are identified and practised termly with children who attend each provision to ensure fire safety is addressed and familiar procedures implemented in the event of an emergency. All children use the school playgrounds to practise their physical skills within a safe spacious environment. This means that children are able to move around safely, freely and independently making choices and decisions about their play.

The setting is well maintained and offers a welcoming environment for children to play comfortably with the activities and resources available. Children use a range of safe, good quality and developmentally appropriate resources and equipment. These are well organised in a wide range of storage boxes, cupboards and on shelves with a selection available at child height to allow easy access.

Staff have a good understanding of child protection procedures that ensure children are protected from harm or neglect. They are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and are confident to report concerns.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are secure, happy and show enjoyment of their time within each provision. They are confident and make themselves at home, interacting well with staff and with each other to develop positive relationships. For example, staff and children within the wrap-around nursery integrate well with the school provision that work alongside them. Children gain confidence to express their wants and needs with the staff, who take time to listen and make conversation with each child expanding on children's individual interests through discussion and questioning to develop understanding. For example within the wrap-around nursery children were extending their understanding of the weather through creating their own weather charts and discussing different types of weather.

A range of age-appropriate activities and experiences are provided for children that promote development, encourage confidence, develop independence and promote self-esteem, such as identifying a helper for the day and by giving individual children roles and responsibilities. All children spend their time purposefully. Many of the activities are child led with staff supporting and extending children's learning. For example, children in the out of school club used the dressing up to act out different roles and characters, one child was dressed as a lady, another child was a lion with each child taking on the individual characteristics of their role. Staff have knowledge of each child that attends and are developing an understanding of their individual capabilities. This enables them to adapt and extend activities aiming to ensure each child gains the most out of each activity they participate in. Written plans are provided for both provisions with the wrap-around nursery basing their plans around the Foundation Stage and the out of school basing their plans on a specific theme. However, staff do not use observations and records of what children do to plan for the next steps for the children's play learning and development. This potentially inhibits children's learning and development.

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy positive relationships with staff and each other. They are valued members of the group, respected as individuals with their individual needs identified and met. Staff demonstrate an understanding of equal opportunities and special needs issues that is reflected within their practice. Access to both provisions is good. Currently, there are no children with disabilities attending however, staff have devised appropriate policies and procedures to promote

inclusion for all children. Resources and activities provide positive images and develop children's understanding of themselves and the wider world. For example, books, dressing up and activities relating to specific festivals. This helps children's awareness of the wider world, helps them develop positive attitudes and increases awareness of diversity and understanding of others.

Children are well behaved and show care and concern as they take turns, share and play alongside each other harmoniously. The staff apply a consistent approach to manage a wide range of children's behaviour. Positive use of praise and lots of encouragement helps to build children's self-esteem. Children make themselves at home, confidently deciding what to do. They have opportunities to rest and to be active.

All children benefit from the positive partnership that staff have developed with parents and carers. Children settle well because the staff work closely with parents and the school to ensure that children's needs are met. Parents are made aware of how the setting operates and how children will be cared for through daily discussions, by providing parents notice boards and by the range of written and verbal policies and procedures that are shared with parents during initial visits.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff are experienced and knowledgeable to ensure individual children's needs are met. The person in charge of the wrap-around nursery and staff meet all relevant training requirements. However, there is no identified person in charge within the out of school club who meets relevant training requirements. This means the manager of the out of school club does not have a level 3 qualification appropriate to the post. Recruitment, vetting and induction procedures are in place to ensure staff are appropriately experienced, vetted and introduced to the setting. The registered person and the manager ensure that required staffing levels are maintained.

A range of written and verbal policies and procedures are used to promote the welfare, care and learning of children, such as written behaviour management policies and accident records. Policies and procedures are shared with parents to keep them informed about the service and their child's activities and well-being. This contributes to continuity in the children's care. Children's records and staff details are stored securely and available for inspection. Relevant documentation is accurately completed and maintained, such as staff and children's attendance registers and visitors log books. However, medication records lack detail. This means a record of the time parents require medication to be administered is not provided.

Overall the provision 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):

- update medication records to include details of the time parents require the medication to be administered
- use observations and records of what children do to plan for the next steps for the children's play learning and development
- devise an action plan detailing how an identified manager with at least a level 3 qualification will be available to work within the out of school club.

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)