



Hardwick 3.15 Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	221642
Inspection date	30 November 2006
Inspector	Emma Bright
Setting Address	The Community Room, Hardwick Primary School, Limes Road, Hardwick, Cambridgeshire, CB3 7QR
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Registered person	Hardwick 3.15 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?

Hardwick 3:15 Out of School Club is managed by a voluntary management committee, made up of parents of children at the club. It opened in 1989 and operates from the community room of Hardwick Community Primary School, in the village of Hardwick. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open five days a week from 15:15 to 17:45 during school term times. All children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 34 children aged from four to 12 years on roll. Children come from the local area. The club currently supports a small number of children with learning difficulties and disabilities, and also supports children who have English as an additional language.

The club employs three staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a good range of physical activities, and make good use of the outdoor area and school gym to participate in active games. They access a good range of resources such as skipping ropes, hula hoops, bats and balls to develop their physical skills. Children enjoy demonstrating their very good skipping skills as they compete to see who can skip for the longest time. In addition, they excitedly discuss the pending visit from a footballer at the local football club, who will be training with them. Children develop their manipulative skills by using a range of tools in a variety of creative activities. They have the space to relax in the 'comfy' corner with their friends, and this ensures that all children benefit from physical activity and quiet time so they are happy and content.

Children's good health is promoted and they are protected from cross-infection. They understand about the importance of personal hygiene and competently wash their hands before snack times and after using the toilet. Staff act as good role models, wiping down surfaces before serving food to help children to stay healthy. If the children become unwell whilst they are in the care of the provision, very clear records and procedures are in place to make sure that they are well cared for. Children's medical needs are well met as clear parental consents for first aid or the administration of medication are obtained, and all staff hold current first aid certificates.

Children are well nourished and they learn about making healthy choices from the good selection of snacks on offer. For example, they readily tuck into carrot sticks, apple and bananas, and help themselves to crumpets. Children have plenty of water and juice to drink throughout the session; they recognise their body's needs, helping themselves to water after exercise so that they remain well-hydrated. Children's individual dietary needs are met as clear information is gathered from parents about allergies or special dietary requirements and this ensures children can eat safely.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children's overall welfare is extremely well promoted by clear procedures and documents that consistently ensure their safety. For example, all staff attend regular child protection training to ensure their knowledge is up-to-date. Staff have an excellent understanding of child protection procedures, which are in line with those set out by the Local Safeguarding Children Board. They are extremely confident to act in children's best interests in the event of concerns for their welfare. In addition, children learn to keep themselves safe because staff ensure that children clearly know that they can talk to staff members at any time. This means that children's safety is fully protected and they are kept safe from harm.

Children play in a warm and welcoming environment, where their artwork is valued and attractively displayed for others to see and enjoy. This significantly promotes their confidence and self-esteem, whilst contributing to their sense of belonging. Children confidently select a superior range of activities and resources, which have been very well chosen to support their

play and this means they can follow their own interests. All resources and equipment are regularly checked by staff to ensure they are in exemplary condition and absolutely safe for children to use.

Children are cared for in an extremely safe, well-maintained environment where risks are clearly identified and minimised. This means they are able to move around safely and independently under the exemplary supervision of the staff. A full daily check of the premises is carried out at the beginning of each session to ensure all areas used by the children are safe. Detailed risk assessments are completed on the premises and activities to ensure that children are not exposed to any dangers. Children's safety in case of fire is given very high priority. For example, children regularly practise the emergency escape plan and they competently explain that "you have to get out quickly and line up in the playground and you leave your things behind". This means they all know exactly what to do in the event of an emergency evacuation and are familiar with the routine. In addition, stimulating activities such as a visit from the fire service to talk to the children and let them inspect their fire engine, are highly successful in helping children to build on what they already know.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident, happy and settled, and they form positive relationships with the staff who are very caring and sensitive to their needs. They benefit from staff's good knowledge and understanding of child development because staff plan and provide a varied range of stimulating activities, which reflect children's abilities and interests. A flexible approach to this planning means there is a good balance between adult and child-led activities, which allows children to develop their own play and interests. Staff work very well together as a team to support children's play and provide plenty of opportunities for fun. They respond positively to children's ideas and opinions, treating what they say with respect, which contributes to children's sense of belonging and promotes their self-esteem.

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the club; they arrive and enter eagerly, and are warmly welcomed by the staff. Children show great enthusiasm in what they do and enjoy the activities on offer, particularly art and craft. They carefully decorate glassware with special pens and demonstrate pride in their achievements, eagerly displaying their artwork for others to admire. Children enjoy the calm atmosphere of the club, where they can choose to relax in the quiet corner, or they can join in with the activities if they wish. This ensures they can make their own choices about what they want to do and their individual needs are met. Children enjoy each others company and play happily together, sharing resources and taking turns. They eagerly play pool or join in games of 'hedbanz' and 'uno spin' with great excitement.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children benefit from the highly effective relationships between the staff and their parents. All policies and procedures are in place to share information with parents and carers and they receive excellent information through the club's first rate brochure. Regular newsletters and

an attractive notice board keep them informed about the setting and activities. Parents have regular opportunities to present their views through the use of questionnaires, and written feedback demonstrates their high regard for the setting and the staff. In addition, parents speak very highly of the staff and are extremely confident in the care their child receives.

Children's individual needs are clearly understood by staff as the setting gathers excellent information from parents to ensure these needs are extremely well met. This contributes significantly to children's well-being and they become confident members of the club. Children with learning difficulties and disabilities benefit significantly from staff's experience and caring support, which enables them to participate at their own pace. Staff are proactive in working with parents, carers and other agencies to support the children's needs and this ensures that they are fully included in the life of the setting.

Children consistently behave extremely well and clearly understand what is expected of them. They learn through purposeful routines and sensitive expectations. For example, they negotiate for popular resources, readily taking turns. Children explain that they do not need to use a 'waiting list' for games of pool because "we know how to share and be fair so everyone has a turn". Children have excellent opportunities to present their views. For example, they have their own council which is a forum for their voices to be heard and they have a say in how their club is run, which ensures they feel respected and acknowledged.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are kept safe because rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures ensure that adults are suitable and have appropriate skills and knowledge to work with children. The induction procedure and detailed operational plan, with up-to-date information for staff, makes sure that all members of the team are secure in their knowledge of their roles and responsibilities. The required criteria that at least half of all staff hold a level 2 qualification is currently not being met, however, the provider is seeking to address this issue. Staff attend a range of training opportunities, which means that children benefit from practices which are in line with current ideas and legislation.

Children's care is enhanced by the good quality organisation; they benefit from a very well prepared environment that promotes positive outcomes for all children and enables them to make decisions and pursue their own interests. Children are happy and confident because staff develop warm and affectionate relationships with them, and they benefit from the care and attention offered by the staff. All required documentation, which ensures children's welfare, is in place. For example, parental consents and details of any medical needs are obtained and stored with appropriate regard for confidentiality. Staff work well together and demonstrate great enthusiasm for creating a stimulating and interesting environment for all children. Overall, children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to update the information booklet for parents. The prospectus for parents has been improved, which ensures that parents have clear information about the setting.

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):

- develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half of all staff will hold an appropriate level 2 qualification.

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