



Kingy's After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	318139
Inspection date	19 December 2006
Inspector	Janice Shaw
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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?

Kingy's out of school club has been registered since 1998. It operates from two play rooms in a purpose built unit in Sale, Cheshire. Outdoor play facilities are available. The facility serves the surrounding area and children are taken and collected from a local primary school.

A maximum of 33 children may attend the club at any one time. There are 52 children on roll age from four to 11 years who attend a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with learning difficulties. The club is open from Monday to Friday term-time only from 08.00 to 09.00 and from 15.15 to 18.00 hours.

There are five members of staff who work with the children. Half of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3 and NNEB. The setting is a member of the Kids Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm and clean environment. They are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Which effectively fosters their understanding of the importance of good hygiene practices. Colourful posters and written statements on the walls actively encourage children to remember the consequences of poor hand washing.

Children are developing a good understanding of healthy eating. During the after-school session they are provided with a good range of healthy and freshly prepared foods, which appeal to them and meet their dietary needs. For example, children enjoy meals such as toast, crackers and low sugar drinks. Water is freely available throughout the session for children to quench their thirst. Positive steps have been made to introduce children to the principles of healthy eating by very good use of cooking sessions where they make items, such as mini pizzas and fruit kebabs.

All children benefit from a strong emphasis on physical development and they enjoy frequent opportunities to play outside and take part in a variety of physical activities. They develop their large muscles on the climbing equipment and fine manipulative skills are developed through the use of small tools, such as scissors, pencils and small equipment. This good use of the outdoor space together with the twice daily walks to school ensures that children benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a warm and welcoming environment where posters and children's art work are attractively displayed on the walls giving a strong sense of value to all children. Play materials and resources are readily available within the different areas, giving children freedom of choice. Staff ensure that all items are safe and in good condition and that there is enough variety to meet the needs of all the children who attend each day. A record of visitors is maintained to show the details of all adults who enter the provision which contributes to children's safety. Their welfare with regards to child protection issues is well promoted as the staff have a secure understanding of their responsibilities in following correct procedures in the event of a concern.

Children move confidently and safely around the play rooms enjoying their sense of independence, but understand the clear boundaries that ensure their own protection, for example, children know that practising emergency evacuation routines helps them be prepared should there be a fire. However, their understanding of safety procedures is not always sufficiently enforced when leaving the building and transferring to school. At times, children do not wait by the gate for staff, but start to make their own way to the front entrance, only stopping when called by staff to wait. This poses as a significant risk to children, particularly when appropriate staffing ratios are not in place.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time in the club. They benefit from the wide variety of activities, which ensures they can make choices and operate independently. Children are highly motivated by the rich learning experiences on offer. All children spend their time at the group purposefully engaged. For example, some children became involved in a badge making activity while others sit talking with friends exchanging daily news, this significantly enhances their enjoyment and develops their confidence and self-esteem.

Children derive much pleasure from playing outside and eagerly describe to a visitor the games they play and activities they participate in. Whilst some children choose to play outside, others enjoy quieter activities after their school day, such as playing on the pool table or with table top games. A particular favourite of the older children is the 'play hut' in the garden, where they can sit and listen to music, chat with friends or just generally 'chill out'. They have total responsibility for looking after this hut, keeping it tidy and deciding what activities go on in it. This actively encourages a positive approach to taking and sharing responsibilities with their friends.

Good, warm and caring relationships between children and staff are evident. Children are uninhibited when they talk about their emotions. They describe in detail how sad they were about a recent event and how kind people were in helping others in difficult situations. Children's well-being is enhanced when older children respond to the younger children with affection and can be seen spending time reading books to them in the early morning sessions; creating a very friendly home from home experience for all children.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's behaviour at the club is very good and children of all ages play well together. They follow the reminders when they are playing and the children know the boundaries set by the staff because these are clearly explained. When a small child is using a very loud voice he is very sensitively encouraged to lower it, he willingly acquiesced. Staff work closely with the children to set a good example and offer positive role models. For example, they join in games and take turns with the children. The variety of resources available to the children reflects the diverse nature of society satisfactorily. Appropriate systems are in place to support children with additional needs.

Clear systems ensure that all relevant information relating to each child's individual needs are recorded and the staff work effectively in partnership with parents and children to meet those needs. Daily verbal communication with parents ensures continuity of care between the club and home. Parents speak very positively about the provision particularly the caring staff and welcoming atmosphere.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The organisation is satisfactory. Children's welfare is safeguarded as appropriate recruitment procedures are in place to ensure that staff are suitable. Their care and safety is not always ensured as during the morning sessions the correct adult to child ratios are not always strictly adhered to.

Children are very happy and content as staff have developed warm and caring relationships with them. The staff's organisation of space and resources creates a fun environment for the children, which ensures that they enjoy their time at the club. Children's ability to play and an active role in the provision greatly increases their enjoyment.

Documentation is well maintained and updated on a regular basis to ensure all records are up to date. All records relating to children and staff are stored in a secure filing box and treated in a sensitive and confidential manner. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides

Improvements since the last inspection

Following the previous inspection there were three actions to complete. There are now appropriate systems in place for vetting staff, a record of complaints is in place and all records and policies relating to the setting are now in place, up to date and available for inspection.

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 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):

- maintain the required adult:child ratios at all times, and ensure that there is always a minimum of two staff on duty

- demonstrate vigilance with the safety of children when leaving the setting and transferring to school.

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