

Play Academy

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY330557

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Inspector Ann Webb

Setting Address Calverley C of E Primary School, Town Gate, Calverley, PUDSEY, West Yorkshire, LS28 5NF

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Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Sessional 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?

Play Academy Out of School Club operates from the barn at Calverley C of E Primary School. It opened in 2006. The rooms used are a large hall on the ground floor and two smaller rooms on the first floor. It is situated in Calverley, a suburb of Leeds. A maximum of 40 children may attend aged from four years to 11 years. There are currently 60 children on roll. The children have access to a fully enclosed outside play area. The club is open Monday to Friday from 08.00 to 08.45 and from 15.30 to 17.30 during term time, and in school holidays from 08.00 to 17.30. The out of school club employs five staff, four of whom hold a relevant qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The children have reasonably healthy snacks such as hot dogs, cereals, toast and pasta. They are able to help themselves to drinks when they are thirsty. Additionally, the children taste food from other cultures, such as Chinese noodles.

The children's health is further promoted as there are satisfactory arrangements in place for administering first aid and medication. These include written policies which are fully implemented and shared with all parents. There is a fully stocked first aid kit available and three of the staff hold a current first aid certificate.

The children mostly understand about the importance of personal hygiene. They wash their hands after toileting and before tea. They are well supported by the staff in contributing toward their own care needs. However, when the children come in from school and help themselves to biscuits and a drink, they do not wash their hands. The staff are good role models for the children, they practise appropriate hygiene routines during the preparation of food.

There are suitable opportunities for the children to have fresh air and exercise. They play outdoors in the playground with footballs and scooters, and join in games of tennis. Additionally, there is sufficient indoor play space for the children to stretch out and construct and build using a variety of resources.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The staff ensure that toys and equipment used by the children are safe and suitable for their purpose. For example, they check toys before presenting them and discard any equipment which is damaged or broken. The staff have a suitable understanding of the developmental needs of the children, and plan activities which are appropriate for their ages and stages of development.

There is an effective system in place for managing access to the premises, for example, the staff monitor access and ensure that the children do not leave unattended. Most risks to the children's safety are appropriately reduced and health and safety policies are implemented by the staff. However, the door leading to the outdoor area does not fasten open and poses a finger trapping hazard to the children. Appropriate written risk assessments for indoors, outdoors and outings identify potential hazards, for example, when walking by the road.

The staff have a suitable understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures, for example, there is a child protection coordinator, a written child protection procedure and easily accessible contact details for child protection agencies.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children establish friendly relationships with their peers. They are happy and interested in the activities and join in board games and art and craft activities. The children are able to relax after their school day; they sit in groups to watch the television and play computer games, whilst other children prefer to play outdoors with bats, balls and footballs.

The children's creativity is developed through good opportunities to experiment with paint and craft materials, they successfully use paper, pens, stencils and letter stamps to create cards for their parents. Some children enjoy playing together in small groups constructing garages for their cars, while other children are happy to play alone with a train and track. The staff have very good relationships with the children and offer them consistent support during activities. They spend time with the children, listening and talking with them, and consequently the children are happy and settled in their environment.

During the school holidays, activities are planned around the children's interests and requests, for example, they visit the cinema, a soft play gym, parks and a farm. Additionally, activities such as baking, a chick hunt, parachute play and bowling successfully contribute toward the children's recreation and enjoyment during their holiday.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children have good opportunities to learn about their local and wider community. For example, they visit the local park and farm. Additionally, they access resources which reflect positive images of race, gender and disability, such as books, puzzles, dressing up clothes and small world figures. Through the celebration of a variety of festivals, such as Diwali, Eid and Christmas, they learn effectively about their own traditions and those of others.

The children are well settled in their environment and understand what is expected of them. They behave exceptionally well and their behaviour is successfully managed by the staff, who offer clear guidance and support. The children know about sharing and taking turns and play well together in groups, happy to be involved with their peers. They show care and concern for others, have good manners and are helpful and cooperative.

Partnership with parents and carers is good and they receive a significant amount of information regarding all aspects of the setting and the children's care and achievements. For example, they sign accident and medication records, and supply details of children's health history and individual needs. Additionally, the staff informally exchange information at the beginning and end of each session. All policies and procedures are available for parents and a notice board displays current information.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The environment is appropriately organised, staff know their roles and responsibilities and effectively implement routines to give children a broad range of experiences. Children benefit from well deployed staff, who consistently interact with them and give them effective support and encouragement, which helps them feel secure and confident.

A suitable system is in place to record the staff and children's daily attendance, for example, parents sign out their children with the time of departure. However, visitors are not consistently asked to sign the visitor record.

There are suitable systems in place to ensure that the staff working with the children are suitable to do so. For example, background checks are undertaken for all new staff members. The children are cared for by an appropriate number of qualified and experienced staff who are keen to keep up to date with current childcare practice through attending training, such as first aid.

All information regarding the children is easily accessible in an emergency and records are routinely shared with parents and updated. This contributes appropriately towards the children's welfare. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the out of school club was asked to take action regarding a number of safety issues and staff qualifications. Since the last inspection, the club has updated its policies with regard to uncollected children and the staff have read and now understand the child protection policy. All medication is kept inaccessible to children in a locked cupboard, the fire door remains closed throughout the session and some staff are undertaking a Level 3 childcare qualification. These actions significantly contribute toward the children's safety and well-being.

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 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):

- improve children's health with regard to hand washing
- ensure that the exterior door does not pose a hazard to children
- ensure that records of visitors are consistently maintained.

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