



(Catz Clubs) Uplands Primary

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY282703
Inspection date	21 November 2005
Inspector	Christine Lynne Hodge
Setting Address	Church Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA7 4DG
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Registered person	Catz Clubs
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?

Catz Club Out of School Club, Uplands Primary School, Church Road, Bexleyheath has been registered since February 2005. It operates from a large hall on the ground floor which can be divided into a smaller area. The club also has use of the computer suite and studio room on the first floor along with the toilets and outside play area. The club provides breakfast facilities from 07:45 until 09:00 and after school care from 15:20 until 17:30. The holiday club runs between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00.

The club may provide out of school care for a maximum of 32 children from 4 years to under 8 years at any one time. Children over 8 years also attend the provision.

There are currently 32 children on roll.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children have good opportunities to run around in a spacious indoor and outdoor environment and to take part in many activities, such as football, tennis and skipping, which help to develop their physical skills. A range of construction resources, pencils and puzzles help children to develop their fine motor skills.

The premises are clean and well maintained. Good hygiene practices ensure that children are protected from the spread of germs and infection. For example, staff use anti-bacterial spray for cleaning the tables and children understand the importance of washing their hands before eating and after going to the toilet, and do so with very little prompting.

The group has good procedures in place for the administration of medication and a first aid box is readily accessible. However, a trained first aider is not always present.

Children are provided with generally healthy snacks. For breakfast they are offered a choice of cereals and yogurts. After school they can choose from a variety of spreads, such as cheese, Marmite and jam, for their sandwiches and have fresh fruit and raisins, with water or blackcurrant to drink. Children attending the holiday playscheme provide their own packed lunch.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from playing in a spacious, well organised environment that allows them to move around freely, safely and independently. Daily risk assessments enable staff to identify and reduce potential hazards to ensure children's safety. Play resources and equipment are in good condition and meet the needs of the children attending. There are effective procedures in place for the collection of children, with parents having to sign children out of the after school club and in and out of the holiday play scheme.

Staff talk to children about potential hazards and encourage them to take responsibility for their own safety and actions. For example, during a game of football some boys become over zealous, kicking the ball towards the tables where children are sitting. Staff ask them to be careful and to play in another area of the hall. Written fire evacuation procedures are in place. However, a fire drill has not taken place since the group moved into the new building.

The play leader's basic understanding of child protection does not fully protect children. She would benefit from extending her knowledge and understanding.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, confident and play well together in a relaxed environment. Staff plan a range of weekly and daily activities which include time on the computer, themed activities, art and crafts, construction, stories, music, drama, role play and energetic play.

During free play children enjoy building with various construction toys such as Interstars, Kid Knex and Lego, doing puzzles, playing games, drawing and colouring and playing more energetic ball games such as football and tennis.

Children confidently approach the staff and respond well to their caring attitude. They enjoy adult participation, particularly playing games such as Connect Four, Jenga and tennis. The staff's flexible approach allows children the opportunity to organise and pursue their own games but ensure that they are on hand to support children's efforts and achievements when required.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The out of school club welcomes all children who attend the school. The group's equal opportunities policy which is committed to providing children with an environment free from discrimination is shared with parents. All children are encouraged to take part in activities provided and, if necessary, children with special needs are supported with extra staff.

Staff treat children with respect and use lots of praise and encouragement to promote children's self esteem. Children are generally well behaved and self disciplined. They play well together, share and take turns playing games.

Good working relationships contribute to children's care and well being. Parents are provided with information packs about Catz Club, although staff are waiting for new updated packs. Policies and procedures are displayed on the table alongside the signing out sheets. Parents can talk to staff on a daily basis. Several parents collecting their children give very positive feedback about the provision. The play leader is aware of the new requirements for recording complaints and is in the process of updating the complaint procedure to inform parents.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from qualified and experienced staff who have all been vetted, ensuring children's safety and welfare. The new play leader has completed an NVQ Level 3 in child care and will be attending first aid training at the end of November.

Good organisation of the premises ensures that children have lots of space for

energetic games and a separate area for quieter activities.

A comprehensive operational plan includes a full set of policies and procedures. All documentation required for the safe and effective management of the out of school club is in place and contributes to the welfare and care of the children.

The provision meets the needs of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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):

- ensure that regular fire drills are carried to ensure that children and staff are aware of the required procedures for evacuating the premises.
- ensure that the play leader is fully familiar with child protection procedures in line with the guidance " What To Do if You Are Worried A Child is Being Abused"
- ensure that a qualified first aider is on the premises at all times

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website:

