



## F.A.S.T. After School Club & Holiday Club

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	309656
<b>Inspection date</b>	21 March 2007
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<b>Registered person</b>	Farington Primary School Governors Community
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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?

FAST Out of School Club opened in 1991. It operates from the school hall within Farington Primary School in Leyland.

The Out of School Club is registered to care for a maximum of 40 children from four to eight years at any one time. There are currently 100 children from four to eleven years on roll, no children currently attending have learning difficulties or disabilities, and none of the children have English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times from 15:15 until 18:00 and children attend for a variety of sessions

Five full time staff work with the children, one of whom is qualified to level three in child care. The Out of School Club is run by a committee.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Regular opportunities are provided for children to exercise and develop physically. Physical games are encouraged, for example, ball games including football, which involves physical exercise and which the children enjoy. The outdoor playground is available for play, providing access to fresh air and more boisterous games, thus helping to promote children's well-being.

Children's health is generally promoted because policies and procedures are in place regarding children who are ill. Staff are aware of the need to maintain records of any accidents, which are recorded on individual sheets, therefore maintaining confidentiality.

Children are encouraged to wash their hands upon arrival at the out of school club. However, they do not wash their hands again during the session, even prior to snack, therefore compromising their health.

Children are adequately nourished whilst attending the out of school club with foods, such as fruit and drinks which are healthy and nutritious. However, the seating of children during snack time restricts the promotion of socialisation.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a secure and safe environment, which is fun for children as they are provided with a varied range of safe play materials, thus providing interest and challenge.

Space is organised into various areas, such as craft, physical play, construction and computer area to provide children with varied opportunities and experiences. However, children are not able to freely access resources of their choosing, thus limiting children's choice and independence.

Children's safety is maintained because staff undertake daily risk assessments, which are recorded and any hazards made safe. Emergency evacuation procedures are regularly practiced at least once every term, therefore ensuring children are aware of how to keep themselves safe in an emergency.

Children are kept safe when walking from another local school each evening. Two staff are always present to escort the children, who all wear fluorescent green jackets. Children are supervised very closely and taught road safety, thus helping to maintain children's safety when away from the setting.

The welfare of children is protected because staff understand the procedures to follow in the event of any concerns. They know to document concerns and to contact social services, which is now known as the 'Local Safe Guarding Children's Board', if they are worried about the welfare of any child.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled, happy, interested and at ease with the club's routine. They relate well to each other and the staff, and enjoy time socialising together. They play games, such as bingo and football, which provides quality play. Children make their own decisions and choices about their play and activities from the varied range of resources, which staff make available. The resources and activities provide interest, stimulation and challenge and as a result children enjoy their time at the provision, with one child stating 'there's loads to do'.

Children's creativity and imagination is developing through craft activities, which are offered daily and are pre-planned by the staff. Children are involved in gluing tissue paper to create spring pictures and the direction from staff is appropriate, offering support rather than direction, which helps children develop their imagination.

There is however, a lack of organisation of resources and activities at the start of the session because as children arrived, the hall was not prepared, which lead to staff organising the room rather than providing sufficient time to welcome the children.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are developing their awareness and understanding about diversity. They have access to a range of resources which reflect these areas. Activities and discussions about diversity helps to re-enforce their learning and understanding of the diverse society in which they live.

Children are valued, included and have their individual needs met appropriately. Staff spoke of providing an inclusive environment in which all children are included. Staff work with parents to provide continuity of care, thus working in the best interests of the child.

Children behave well, they accept and work with age appropriate strategies and praise, encouragement and privileges, to promote positive behaviour. For example, a privilege, such as choosing first at snack time, which acknowledges children's efforts and therefore helps to develop their confidence and self-esteem. Children interact well together, sharing and helping each other, thus demonstrating care for each other.

Children's individual needs are met because of the positive relationships which have been established with parents. Information is shared through parents packs, a notice board, newsletters and daily discussions between parents and staff. Parents are welcomed into the setting and spoke positively about the service provided for their children.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Time and space is appropriately organised so that children are able to play and relax within the setting. Children have use of the main hall and access varied resources which helps in promoting their development. Time is satisfactorily organised to cater for boisterous, quiet and snack times therefore meeting children's individual needs.

Adequate procedures are in place for the recruitment of staff and minimum staffing ratios are maintained. However, presently only one of the five staff employed to care for the children is qualified to level three and therefore qualification requirements are not met.

Documentation is maintained in a basic manner but in line with National Standards. Some documentation lacks detailed information. For example, the staff attendance register is not appropriately maintained, including only staff initials and no arrival and departure times and there is no format for recording complaints. Policies and procedures are in place which helps in ensuring the safe and generally effective management of the provision.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Following the last inspection there were three recommendations raised relating to documentation, child protection and staffing.

Two of the three recommendations raised have received attention. Documentation has been improved by obtaining written parental consents for the seeking of emergency medical treatment or advice and staff have developed their knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures.

However, present staffing does not meet minimum qualification requirements and therefore this recommendation is raised again following this inspection.

Due to the action taken the care and safety of the children has been enhanced.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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):

- promote the good health of children by ensuring hands are washed prior to eating snacks.
- ensure snack times are organised to promote social interaction
- promote children's independence by developing children's accessibility to resources
- ensure a welcoming environment is provided and that children are appropriately welcomed into the setting
- ensure that staff qualification requirements are met
- develop documentation to promote the safe and efficient management of the provision, by devising a format for the recording of complaints and revising the way staff attendance is recorded.

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)