



Goostrey Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY268761
Inspection date	01 March 2007
Inspector	Valerie Craven
Setting Address	Goostrey Primary School, Main Road, Goostrey, Crewe, CW4 8PE
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Registered person	Teresa Ann Clark
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?

Goostrey Out of School Club is sited on the premises of a primary school, set in a rural location of Cheshire. The club is one of several managed by the company Superkids. It currently accepts children from the school. The club provides after school care, Monday to Friday term time only from 15:00 to 18:00. There are 49 children on roll.

Children have access to the hall and a classroom close by. Toilet and kitchen facilities are also provided. Outdoor play is offered in the school grounds, including the adventure playground.

There are currently three staff members who work there on a permanent basis, with a fourth person offering supply cover. There are two staff who hold relevant childcare qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children have an excellent understanding of a healthy lifestyle and are developing independence and responsibility for self-care. Regular, well established routines, such as washing hands at appropriate times promote children's health. Consistently high standards of hygiene are demonstrated by the staff who are vigilant in ensuring that the premises, toys and equipment are very clean and in good condition. This ensures that children play in a healthy environment.

Children's health is protected as they benefit from a comprehensive range of policies and procedures regarding the care of sick children and administration of medication, which are well implemented by staff. Most staff have a relevant first aid certificate and are able to respond to children's needs effectively.

Nutritious, healthy snacks are freshly prepared on the premises and children enjoy a good variety of fresh fruit, for example, pineapple. Children and staff discuss food preferences and why certain foods promote health, which develops sound understanding. Staff know children well and are vigilant about food allergies. They are aware of the contents of foods and always check ingredients for additives, such as aspartame, to ensure that children's health is not compromised in any way. Fresh drinking water is available at all times as children have access to a water cooler.

The benefits of exercise and fresh air are enjoyed daily as children have access to the school playground, where they enthusiastically play ball games and use a variety of equipment to develop coordination. Sometimes children use the adventure playground where they can develop skills, such as balancing and climbing. Staff purposefully organise and play games, such as skipping with the children, to ensure that children's physical needs are consistently well met. If the weather is bad, indoor games are organised to make sure that children always have the opportunity for exercise. When they are tired they are able to rest in the seating area of the playground or on cushions in the hall.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The out of school club operates mainly from the school hall, which is regularly risk assessed to minimise hazards to children. Staff are keen to further develop their understanding of health and safety issues and risk assessments to enhance children's safety. The indoor environment is very well maintained and carefully organised to allow a variety of activities to take place simultaneously, such as indoor ride on toys, table football, craft activities and reading, which means that children can play safely. Toys and equipment are regularly checked by staff, are well maintained and appropriate for children's use. There are sufficient play materials and equipment to promote equality of opportunity and children use them with respect and care.

Children are kept safe because staff are vigilant in implementing policies and procedures, such as asking visitors to sign in and regularly practising emergency evacuation procedures. Children

are able to take responsibility, understand why procedures are necessary and have an excellent attitude towards the safety of themselves and of other children. When walking to the premises children are carefully escorted wearing fluorescent vests. They are taught about road safety and understand where roads are safe to cross.

The indoor premises are secure and there are effective systems in place for the safe arrival and collection of children. In the playground staff closely supervise children and there are rules which ensure that children do not gain access to the road, however, the gate is not always closed. When using the adventure playground staff ensure vigilant supervision at all times.

Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and have undertaken relevant training. Policies and procedures are also in place, which means that children's well-being is safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are extremely happy to attend the setting, which is very well organised and effectively meets their needs. All children enjoy positive relationships with staff who spend a considerable amount of time interacting with the children, which enables them to feel respected and safe in their care. They are actively involved in and concentrate on a broad range of activities which are suitable for all age groups. Whilst adults initially select toys for the children to play with, children are able to make choices and ask for specific games or toys that they like. However, they have limited access to the computers and technology. Children's independence is not fully promoted as they are not always encouraged to be involved in activities, such as tidying up.

Children have opportunities to play outdoors, where they can play football or basketball, skip, play games or sit quietly in the seating area. Sometimes children use the adventure playground, which helps to build confidence and develop balance and control. Indoors, staff skilfully create designated areas for different types of play, such as construction, using a variety of kits, games and jigsaws, a soft area for reading books, an open space for ride on toys and a creative area, which children can access independently. Younger children are able to use their imagination as they dress up and engage in role play. Their creativity is fostered well, as staff plan many exciting and stimulating activities in a wide variety of medium, such as sculpture with mod-rock, door plaques from wood, bowls from paper mâché, caterpillars from folded paper, painting and junk modelling. Children develop self-esteem as they contribute to bright and stimulating displays.

Staff value children's work highly and recognise their achievements. If work is unfinished it is stored safely for another day and children have time to finish their projects at their own rate, which ensures that they achieve success and satisfaction. Children are able to make suggestions for activities and are supported well, which develops their sense of belonging.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff know the individual children well and meet their needs effectively. All children are valued and treated with kindness and respect. The inclusive ethos of the setting enables all children to access activities and both boys and girls are fully involved with a variety of interesting, creative activities. Children learn about the wider world through planned activities, such as festivals and discussions with staff. However, resources are not yet fully developed to promote diversity for children of all age groups. Staff do use the library to provide a variety of books and school wall displays demonstrate many positive images to promote knowledge of the wider world. Children are developing very positive attitudes towards each other, they take turns, share and show concern for each others well being. Children are involved in charity work to raise funds for others in need.

Children with additional needs are welcomed into the setting and well supported. Staff use a pictorial system so that children are able to effectively communicate their needs. An inclusion grant has been well utilised to provide appropriate resources for children to enjoy. Whilst staff do not have specific training to support children with additional needs, they communicate daily with parents and carers to ensure that the care that they give is of a consistently good quality and in line with parents' wishes.

Children are very well behaved and polite. They listen well to staff and respond quickly to requests, such as when tidying away plates and getting ready to go outside. Staff act as good role models and praise children for their efforts and achievements, which promotes a positive self-image. Children are keen to undertake jobs, such as collecting cups and plates after snack. Consistent routines and boundaries ensure that children are confident and secure. They are involved in decision making and have formulated their own positive ground rules, which gives them ownership and a sense of belonging.

Staff build positive relationships with parents who are delighted with the care and facilities which benefit their children. Parents spoken to comment on staff being 'fabulous' and how difficult it can be taking their children home, as they are often reluctant to leave because there is so much for them to do. A notice board in the hallway and regular newsletters through the school ensure that parents are kept well informed. A comment book is available and feedback sheets have been used to identify parents' wishes and suggestions, which have been considered and implemented, to improve the care of the children.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

The manager is fully committed to ensuring all children receive the highest care, through self evaluation, planning of activities and monitoring of the setting. Children benefit from motivated, enthusiastic, caring and experienced staff who have relevant training to meet their needs. Staff are effectively vetted and inducted well. This is enhanced by regular meetings and in house training, promoting good practice and efficiently adapting to changes in regulations. An appraisal system is in place so that ongoing suitability and relevant training needs can be addressed to ensure that children are continually well cared for.

Policies and procedures, which contribute to children's health and well-being are in place and are successfully implemented by staff. Records are efficiently maintained and documents are correctly stored to ensure confidentiality. Staff plan a wide variety of stimulating and interesting activities, which enhance children's learning and enjoyment. The environment, time and resources are successfully organised and staffing levels maintained to maximise opportunities for children's learning and development.

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 two recommendations were raised in relation to the out of school provision. In addressing these issues child protection statements, policies and procedures have been reviewed and are comprehensive, including telephone numbers for social services and the police. Also, arrangements to monitor access have been improved with the acquisition of a bell and monitor in the hall, specifically for access to the out of school club, which promote 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 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):

- further develop resources, especially with regard to IT and role play
- consider having a range of toys, equipment and resources on site at all times to encourage the children's understanding of the world in which we live.

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