



Buckies Out Of School Care Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	508059
Inspection date	06 February 2007
Inspector	Carole, Jean Bell
Setting Address	Shore Edge Methodist Church, Buckstones Road, Shaw, Oldham, Lancashire, OL2 8LS
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Registered person	Audrey Smith
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?

Buckies Out of School Care Club has been registered under its new name since September 2003 having previously been registered as Buckstones before and after school club for ten years. The group is based in the Shore Edge Methodist Church hall, in the Shaw area of Oldham.

Children have use of the ground floor hall with adjacent toilet facilities.

The group's equipment has to be set up and put away after each session due to other groups using the room.

The children who attend are delivered to and collected from two local primary schools on foot.

The registration is for 30 children of mainstream school age and does not include overnight care. There are currently 18 children on roll.

The service is offered from 7:45 - 8:45 and 15:15 - 18:00, Monday to Friday, term time only.

The children are cared for by a qualified, experienced leader who is assisted by one member of staff who holds a child care qualification. A list of people, checked as being suitable to work with children, is available to stand in during an emergency should this be necessary.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean and warm environment. They are learning to take care of themselves and are encouraged in simple good health and hygiene practices, such as washing their hands before eating and after going to the toilet. Staff set a good example to children and maintain their own hygiene routines when preparing snacks for the children and in cleaning tables between activities. Children are further protected from infection as a sickness and exclusion policy is in place.

Children benefit from healthy and nutritious snacks. They take into account their individual dietary requirements to ensure that they stay healthy. Children are able to make choices about their snacks and have access to fresh fruit and drinks, promoting a healthy lifestyle.

Although there is no outdoor play space, staff ensure that children have opportunities to enjoy physical play which contributes to their good health and develops their strength. They are able to play ball games, quick cricket, football and skipping as part of their routine. They also benefit from the 15 minute walk from school each day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a safe and welcoming environment where they have plenty of space to move around. Staff display children's art work to brighten the shared premises and children experience a sense of pride in seeing their work valued and exhibited. The risk of accidental injury is minimised as staff are aware of potential hazards and take appropriate steps to keep children safe. These include risk assessments, fire drills and security of external doors when children are present. However, staff should ensure that they record all visitors to the premises. Children are learning good safety routines when walking to and from school. Staff make sure that children walk in pairs and learn to cross the road safely. They give the children gentle reminders of basic safety, such as keeping plastic carrier bags away from their faces.

Children have access to a range of safe, well maintained and age appropriate equipment. Resources are all good quality and sufficient in quantity to meet their needs. They are well organised to allow children to make choices about their play and improve their confidence and independence skills.

Children are well protected. Both staff have received training in child protection and are aware of their responsibilities under the Children Act. They are aware of the types of abuse and signs

to look for and that the children's welfare is paramount. Information is passed to parents and carers about accidents that have occurred at school.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are comfortable and relaxed with the staff and each other. Their confidence is promoted by positive relationships with staff and their understanding of children's individual needs and personalities. Children are given good attention and staff ask questions and initiate discussion about what they have done at school.

Children are confident and self assured in their play and older children encourage and support the younger ones in shared games. They are given praise and support from the staff who provide interesting activities and encourage children to make choices about their play. They have access to craft activities, electronic games, jigsaws, construction toys, board games, books and physical play. Children are involved, stimulated and interested in the activities provided and play well together or alone.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's individual needs are discussed with parents and competently met by staff. Staff are experienced in meeting the needs of children with disabilities and work in partnership with parents to meet specialised needs. Children gain an awareness of their local environment and other cultures through a variety of resources and activities. The children have recently completed a project on Chinese New Year. They have learned about what Chinese sign they were born under and their art work is proudly displayed. They are encouraged to value others as individuals. This ensures that children feel important and develop their own sense of belonging.

Children benefit from positive relationships that staff have developed with them, their parents and school staff. Parents are given copies of all policies and procedures and an information booklet about the setting before the start of the placement. Continuity of care and consistency for children is ensured through friendly and informal daily feedback. However, staff should review systems to record and relay information between school and home.

The staff speak positively to the children at all times. They praise the children for good manners and encourage them in social skills. Children are learning respect for people and property through the use of positive ground rules which they have developed. They are developing an understanding of taking turns, sharing and playing cooperatively in joint activities.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are well cared for. They benefit from good organisation and care from committed staff. Their development is enhanced by the individual support they receive and the provision of stimulating activities. Staff are well deployed to meet their needs and children are given

freedom to choose their play and activities. The adult to child ratio positively supports children's care, learning and play.

All required documentation is in place and well kept. Policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and updated to maintain effectiveness. This contributes to the children's health, well being and safety. Staff are trained in first aid and their service is enhanced by their commitment to further training and personal development. They keep up to date by subscribing to the national body for out of school clubs and relevant publications.

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 provider agreed to minimise hazards to the temporary premises and to make all policies and procedures available to all parents. These recommendations have been put into practice leading to a safer environment for children and giving parents more information about their children's care.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 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):

- ensure that all visitors to the premises are recorded
- review systems to record and relay information between school and home.

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