



Kidzone Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	309648
Inspection date	01 March 2007
Inspector	Kathy Ann Leatherbarrow
Setting Address	Methodist Chapel Hall, Chapel Road, Hesketh Bank, Preston, PR4 6RT
Telephone number	07941 881 776
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Registered person	Kidzone Out of School Club
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?

Kidzone Out of School Club opened in July 1996. It operates from within the Methodist Church Hall buildings, which is located within the village of Hesketh Bank. The club has sole use of the building during operating times and the children have access to a large central hall, single gender toilets and a kitchen where snacks can be prepared and lunches stored. A semi enclosed grassed outside play area is available to the children, weather permitting.

The club is open each weekday from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.15 to 17.45, term time and from 08.45 to 12.45 during the school holidays.

The club currently has 30 children on the register, of which 12 are under eight years. They provide care before and after school and during school holidays. There is a staff team of four led by a supervisor who holds a Level 3 childcare qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from daily physical activities that promote the development of large muscle skills. They walk to and from school in all weathers and take part in some outdoor activities including ball games, football and skipping, weather permitting. Therefore, children have ample fresh air and exercise.

In the main, suitable steps are taken to promote children's health. For example, appropriate standards of cleanliness are maintained in the setting. Staff are proactive at cleaning tables before children have their snacks, to minimise the risk of cross-contamination. Children are encouraged to adopt sound personal hygiene practices as staff encourage children to wash their hands before snacks.

Children sit in social groups for their snack and they talk about their day in school and their plans for the evening. They are provided with few healthy choices, such as raisins. On the whole, children are provided with foods that are high in sugar and fat, such as biscuits, cakes, crisps and chocolate bars. Therefore, children are not encouraged to understand the importance of healthy eating.

There are adequate procedures in place for staff to follow in the event that a child is unwell or has an accident. A number of staff members are appropriately trained in first aid, therefore, can effectively attend to any child requiring treatment. However, not all records of accidents have been signed by parents and the first aid box is not appropriately stocked.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming and safe environment. There are no documented risk assessments in place for staff to be aware of and follow. However, staff demonstrate a sound understanding of how to prevent accidents. They minimise the dangers to children both indoors and outdoors by providing a well laid out setting and having clear rules and expectations for behaviour. For example, there are agreed procedures for children to follow when walking to and from school, to keep them safe.

There are adequate systems in place for ensuring the toys and resources that children use are of good quality and are safe. Therefore, children are able to move around and play in a safe and well organised environment.

The manager has completed training on an introduction to safeguarding children. There is an incomplete child protection statement that does not support staff practice as it does not have clear details on a procedure for staff to follow. As a result, staff know what should concern them but the reference materials give them little information. Therefore, procedures relating to the protection of children are not sufficient.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled in a relaxed and supportive environment. They quickly engage in activities on arrival and settle down to their chosen activity. Good relationships between staff and children are formed which enhances children's confidence. Children enthusiastically talk about the club and the activities they like participating in such as, role play.

Children play well together in small groups mixing with different age groups. Older children take pride in helping younger children dressing up, doing up zips and buttons. Younger children enjoy listening to older children play tunes on their recorders, which they learnt in school. They share resources well, such as board games and colouring resources, without intervention by adults. As a result, children are happy and experience a setting where their ideas are valued.

Staff use the appropriate resources and play equipment well. Activities are well planned and sufficiently engage children in play, which keeps them occupied.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued as individuals which promotes equality of opportunity. All children enjoy dressing up, which results in boys and girls equally playing together as fairies wearing skirts and tiaras. Staffs regular liaison with parents allows them to know and take account of children's individual needs. Effective systems in place result in children having good opportunities to participate and enable staff to meet their individual needs well.

Children behave well and respond to the staff's requests. For example, wash hands before snacks and help tidy toys away. Children are polite and well mannered and staff respond appropriately and politely to children's questions and requests. A range of booklets and leaflets is made available to children regarding bullying. As a result, children are confident in reporting any concerns, which promotes kindness and caring for one another.

Staff and parents exchange information about the children's care each day as parents bring and collect their children. This benefits the children as closer links between home and the club are created. However, the club's policies and procedures are not made available to parents. A noticeboard provides parents with current news.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The staff team work well together and create a relaxed atmosphere where children feel happy and secure. Children enjoy their time in the setting. They are busy and occupied as they benefit from the attention given to organising a sound range of interesting activities.

Adequate ratios of adults staff the club each day and the majority of the team hold a childcare qualification, which enhances the quality of the children's care. However, the framework, recent

guidance and the club's procedures are not actively shared with staff to ensure they can promote positive outcomes for children.

Most documentation is in place. However, some policies and procedures require updating to support the staff's practice and ensure the well-being and care of children.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection the setting has introduced an induction procedure for staff. There is some evidence that steps have been taken to ensure the low-level glass meets health and safety requirements. The setting has included bullying in the behaviour management policy and made appropriate reference materials available to children. This ensures children's safety and well-being is protected .

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 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:

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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 the contents of the first aid box are replaced as necessary and all parents sign the accident record
- further encourage children's understanding of healthy eating by providing healthy and well balanced snacks
- ensure risk assessments are in place and available to staff. Ensure the child protection statement includes a clear procedure for staff to follow
- make available to parents the club's policies and procedures

- ensure all documentation is up-to-date, namely the staffing lists and complaints log.

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