



Chill Out Time Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY292224
Inspection date	25 January 2007
Inspector	Julie Larnar
Setting Address	Stocksfield Avenue Primary School, St. Cuthberts Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE5 2DQ
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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?

Chill Out Time Childcare is located in Stocksfield Avenue Primary School in the Fenham area of Newcastle upon Tyne. Chill Out Time Childcare is privately owned and also provides services for two other out of school clubs in the local area. It is accessible to pupils who attend the school in which it is based.

The group is registered to provide care for 24 children aged from three to eight years. There are 25 children currently on roll. The group is open from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.15 to 18.00 during term-time. The group will also be open from 07.45 to 18.00 to cover the teacher training days when the school is closed. During the school holidays care is not provided at the out of school group based in the school, but children can access full day holiday care at English Martyrs Primary School which is also run by Chill Out Time Childcare. The group have use of a hall area, nearby toilets, staff facilities and a kitchen area. To the rear of the hall is a play area that can be enclosed and further round the building is a grassed area which can also be enclosed to create an outdoor play area.

The group has a person in charge and employs one other member of staff to work with the children. The group does have other out of school schemes running in the area and can supply staff from these settings to cover the group to maintain appropriate ratios.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy regular opportunities for physical play. They play football indoors and practise their dribbling skills around coloured cones that they set up themselves. Children balance and take risks successfully on low benches. Staff set up the area in an appropriate way to ensure that children can choose to play active games indoors, for example, half of the hall area is sectioned off for free play. Children enjoy regular outdoor play. They collect sticks and play imaginary games due to staff listening to children well and taking children outside at their request. These activities help to contribute towards a healthy lifestyle as children become active in the group.

A healthy and varied diet is provided for children. They eat brown bread, cheese and fruit at snack time and a menu planner ensures that children have a wide variety of foods and drinks that are good for them. Children's independence is encouraged mainly successfully at snack time as they line up to choose their food and some children pour their own drinks of fresh orange or water. Whilst children have water available with their snack this is not sufficiently easily accessible during the rest of the session.

Children are cared for in a clean and hygienic environment. Toys and equipment are maintained to an adequate standard to ensure these are safe and appropriate for children. Staff encourage children to take care of their own personal needs by reminding them to wash their hands before they eat, which works sufficiently well. Children are protected from cross infection due to consistent cleaning routines, such as washing down tables, using table cloths for snack time and written policies ensuring children with infectious illnesses do not attend the group. Staff's understanding of what to do in the event children are unwell ensures that children remain comfortable before they are collected by parents.

The relevant paperwork is in place which contributes to children's welfare. Staff complete first aid and food hygiene training to ensure they have the relevant understanding of how to prepare foods safely and deal with accidents which helps to ensure children's well-being.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Weekly written checklists and daily visual checks contribute to children's safety in the setting. Staff follow clear procedures when they use different areas, such as outdoor play areas, to maintain children's safety as staff conduct thorough checks to ensure that the area is secure and children cannot leave unsupervised. Staff are mainly successful in managing access to the hall to keep children safe from unauthorised visitors, however, on occasion, checks are not thorough enough to ensure that the door that parents use to enter is secure. Children are

reminded how to keep themselves safe in the setting by staff, they ensure children are familiar with letting them know when they are going to the toilet and ask them to be careful when they are using benches and footballs.

Children choose from a wide range of appropriate toys and equipment. Craft and art equipment is especially good as children busy themselves for long periods to draw pictures, make models from wool and fabric and construct from cardboard to make hats. Children are very interested in what is available, low-level shelving helps them to make choices, which they do confidently, as toys are easily accessible. Space is set up well by staff to ensure that children choose from a range of free play or structured activities. A warm and welcoming environment is created where children feel comfortable and settled. Children's artwork is valued as displays on the wall help to create a nice environment and contribute towards raising children's self-esteem.

Children's welfare is safeguarded due to staff showing a clear understanding of child protection. Updated training is required to ensure that staff are aware of current practice and issues and that they have a sound knowledge of procedures to follow.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Planned activities and themes mean children participate in a wide and varied range of stimulating activities. Children are confident in the group and share good relationships with both staff and other children. They are happy, as they laugh when they finish a game on the computer and when staff try on pretend glasses. They have developed positive relationships with other children as they seek each other out to play board games and challenge each other on the computer.

Independence is promoted well in the group and as such, children make choices about what they want to do which are encouraged successfully by staff. They are willing to have a go at things that they ask for help with, as staff motivate them to have a try themselves, but also ensure that they stay nearby to guide and help them. Children confidently use their own ideas in their play as they make models that they have thought up themselves from cardboard and straws. They take a pride in their own achievements as they are excited to show the staff and other children in the group their photograph in a local newspaper.

Children enjoy attending the group where they become involved in a range of fun play and activities that develop their learning and are cared for by staff who respect and value them.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have excellent opportunities to develop an understanding of the world around them. Worthwhile and well planned activities contribute to their understanding of other cultures and diversity. Staff use their own resources to make this a real and enjoyable experience that children want to take part in. A range of resources, such as hats, magazines, boomerangs, stamps and money stimulates discussions about what it's like in Australia and staff support this well to guide children's learning which informs them about Australia Day in the coming week.

Children's individual needs are supported well by staff as they collect good comprehensive information from parents to ensure they successfully meet these needs. Clear policies in promoting equal opportunities are well understood by staff and a keenness to complete further training on specific needs ensures all children are valued and respected. Children settle well in the group, this is because staff make children feel at ease when they first attend, they ensure that children know about the routine and explain what they can do and the activities that they are doing that day.

Children behave well. They play happily together and enjoy getting involved with other children in the group, for example, to discuss which dresses they like in magazines. Rules displayed on the wall shows that children have taken responsibility for thinking about what they can and cannot do in the group and drawn these up themselves, they have made up rules, such as not bullying and saying please and thank you. A lovely calm atmosphere where children take turns and share well is successfully created due to staff's understanding of managing behaviour and rewarding good behaviour positively. Children enjoy small tasks which promote responsibility as they take turns in handing out fruit at snack time.

Relationships with parents are good. Working in partnership with parents, staff successfully pass on relevant information to them which ensures they are well informed about the care of their children, for example, they tell parents that their child has had a cough. Information about how the group operates is passed to parents both when their child starts to attend and through a notice board which displays plans and menus.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff deploy themselves well in the group to ensure children feel secure and supported. They sit with children and enjoy conversations, talking to them about what they are doing and what their day at school has been like. Listening to children's interests contributes to children's enjoyment in activities, such as playing outside and on computer games as they are valued and making decisions about what they want to do.

Staff work well together as a team. The person in charge has a clear understanding of the policies of the group and the staff team use their resources, time and space well to provide a comfortable environment which meets the children's needs successfully. A keen attitude to complete further training ensures staff are up to date with current practice and in turn, benefits the care of the children.

The necessary paperwork is in place to contribute to the smooth running of the group. Staff show a sound understanding of what needs to be in place to contribute to the children's welfare, for example, they record medication, such as inhalers that older children have administered themselves. Records are maintained in a confidential manner and are mostly well organised.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection the group agreed to; ensure children are safely transported from collection areas to the hall area and to ensure sufficient equipment is in place and it is made easily accessible to allow children to make choices.

The staff ensure children's safety whilst transporting them from one building to another due to good clear procedures that they are aware of. They ensure that ratios are maintained and complete two checks to ensure all children are present at two points whilst the children walk to the hall. There is sufficient and easily accessible equipment made available to children that they are interested in. Children can easily make choices about what they want to do.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the previous 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:

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 water is easily accessible throughout the session
- ensure the checks on doors are sufficient to ensure staff manage access to the hall area effectively

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