

ACES Before & After School Club - Manor Primary

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	224871
Inspection date	13 March 2007
Inspector	Margaret Webster
Setting Address	Ettingshall Road, Coseley, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV2 2RQ
Telephone number	01902 880397
E-mail	
Registered person	Management Committee
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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

ACES After School Club opened in 2000 and operates from rooms in Manor Primary School, Coseley, Wolverhampton. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. It is open each weekday from 15.20 to 18.00 for term time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 28 children aged from four years to 11 years on roll. Children from the school attend the club. They support children with learning difficulties and disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

The after school club employs three members of staff. All three hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children practice appropriate hygiene routines. They understand why they need to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. This practice helps to prevent the spread of infection and helps to keep the children healthy.

Children's health is promoted by healthy snack options, such as eating raw carrots and fruit. They have a choice of drinks that are available at all times that include juice, water and milk. This ensures that they stay hydrated at all times.

Children are able to keep fit and exercise through the opportunities provided for physical play in a well resourced outdoor play area. There are climbing areas and a varied range of outdoor play equipment suitable for children of all ages.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

Children are safe as a result of the adults satisfactory awareness of health and safety and all reasonable steps are taken to reduce the risk of accident and injury. Security at the school entrance is good the parents have to ring the bell and the staff have to let them in. They have a policy that explains to the parents how they will vacate the premises in the event of an emergency. However, fire drills have not been done regularly and they do not always keep records of the fire drills. Lack of these procedures is a potential danger to the children's safety and well-being.

Children have access to a reasonable selection of toys and equipment that meet a wide age range.

Children's welfare is safeguarded by the person in charge, who have a sound understanding of child protection procedures. This enables them to support their role of keeping children safe. Staff have attend training to develop their knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are confident and comfortable in the environment. They are self assured in their approach to staff and visitors.

They enjoy the activities provided, such as drawing, board games and playing in the play house. They have opportunities to relax at the end of the school day. Children's physical play is promoted by a well resourced outdoor play area, and a good range of equipment.

Children's independence is well fostered, as they are able to access a selection of toys and equipment and choose their activities by themselves. They have a selection box where they put forward their suggestions for the activities that they would prefer. Children are happy and confident to approach staff members.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well behaved and enjoy good relationships with one another, for example older children help and play with the younger children. They understand the club's ground rules, such as helping to tidy up and being quiet and orderly in the school corridors.

Children's individual needs are met, and staff know what they enjoy. The setting has a clear equal opportunities policy that addresses discrimination, resources, inclusion, and positive strategies to address inequality.

Provision for children with learning difficulties and disabilities is sound. Staff know and respect their individual needs. Their inclusion is supported by staff ensuring that activities are appropriately adapted. They would work with the parents and any agencies involved with the care of the child.

Relationships with parents are effective and they are kept well informed, through informal discussions with staff.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Clear and well-organised policies and procedures are in place to support the effective running of the club, and are in line with the requirements of the National Standards. All the staff are qualified and they have current first aid certificates. This ensures that the children are provided with stimulating activities and that accident are dealt with swiftly and correctly.

There are effective procedures in place to recruit and vet staff. There is an on-going training programme to support staff development and to ensure children are cared for by qualified staff. However, the owner of the club has failed to inform Ofsted that there has been a change of manager at this provision. This does not met the requirement of the National Standards.

Overall, children's need are not met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was asked to complete the following recommendations.

Develop the staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and ensure that they become familiar with the Area Child Protection procedures. All the staff have completed the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children training. This ensures that all the staff have a sound knowledge of child protection issues and this helps to keep the children safe.

Devise and make available to parents, a written statement on special needs which is consistent with current legislation and guidance. Ensure that this is understood and implemented by all staff. They have introduced a policy for the parents information and the staff are now aware of the current legislation and guidance. The manager and the staff have become aware of the Code of Practice for children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice. The have introduced a selection of toys and

equipment including dolls, books, skin tone paint and crayons and dressing up clothes. They celebrate festival from different cultures including Bastilles Day, Chinese New Year, Divali and Christian festivals. These activities provide the children with a knowledge of different cultures and they learn about the diverse society in which they live.

Ensure that the food sent in by the parents for the children to eat is stored at the right temperature through out the day. This does not apply anymore as the club provide fruit and drinks for the children.

Plan a range of activities and play opportunities for the children's overall development. The new person in charge has planning for the sessions but she is flexible and lets the children take the lead on the different activities. There is a reasonable selection of toys and equipment that meet the needs of the children. This ensures that the children enjoy their time at club.

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:

The quality and standards of the care are inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure that Ofsted is informed of changes of management staff
- ensure that fire drills are conducted at regular intervals and that the details are recorded in a fire log book

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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