



Denim Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY340990
Inspection date	15 March 2007
Inspector	Sally Wride
Setting Address	Willows C of E Junior & Infant School, The Willows North, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, Warwickshire, CV37 9QN
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Registered person	Polkadot Day Nurseries Ltd
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 outstanding. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Denim Out of School Club opened in 2006. It is one of four settings within the same chain and operates from four rooms within Willows C of E Junior and Infant School in a residential area of Stratford-upon-Avon. The club serves both the school at which it is located and another local school. All children share access to secure outdoor play areas.

A maximum of 26 children aged from four to eight-years-old may attend the club at any one time. However, children up to the age of 12-years-old are also catered for. There are currently 18 children from four to 11-years-old on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and has procedures in place to support children who speak English as an additional language.

The club opens five days a week during school term times only. Sessions are from 08:00 until 09:00 and from 15:15 until 18:00.

There are four members of staff who work with the children. Of these, two have early years qualifications to National Vocational Qualification level 2 or 3. There is one member of staff currently working towards a recognised early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children are cared for in a clean and well maintained environment. Their health is well protected through well-planned daily routines and learning from example. They are well supported in learning to manage their own personal care as they are reminded to wash their hands at appropriate times. Children are able to explain that they wash their hands to 'keep them clean' and 'remove the germs'. Excellent procedures such as staff consistently wearing disposable gloves and aprons for food preparation sustain high levels of hygiene and help to prevent the spread of infection.

Children are provided with plenty of opportunity to rest and relax after their busy day at school. Many choose to sit quietly and play with their toys, converse with their peers and staff or read a book for short periods. Children have excellent opportunities to engage in physical activity. They develop their own obstacle courses, crawl through tunnels, use hoops for hopscotch and practise their throwing, catching and aiming skills as they attempt to throw balls through hoops. Children benefit from enthusiastic staff involvement and interaction when playing outside. They play football, tennis and playground games and enjoy running around in the fresh air.

Children are well nourished and enjoy a healthy and nutritious light tea which offers variety and choice. They independently select from the range provided and sit together with staff and peers to enjoy a sociable occasion. They talk about their day at school and what they hope to do at home with their families at the weekend. Children attending clubs after school have a tea saved for them, which they are then able to eat when they join the other children. Fresh drinking water is always available to ensure that children are well hydrated. Their individual dietary needs and preferences are well catered for as staff work in partnership with both parents and children to secure information about their individual wants and needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming care environment in which they are happy and settled. Their independence and decision making skills are well promoted as they freely select from an excellent range of toys and resources, suitable for their age and stage of development. The staff ensure children's safety by visually completing risk assessments prior to each session before the children arrive. The premises are secure and children are well supervised at all times by staff who are actively involved in their play. There are excellent procedures in place for the safe arrival and collection of children, including information regarding named persons who are able to collect the child.

Children learn about keeping themselves safe as they talk about the actions that they should take in the event of a fire. They ensure that they tell staff when they are going to use the toilet facilities, to ensure that staff are aware of where they are going. Children's welfare is promoted through well detailed child protection policies and procedures, which are in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures. All staff demonstrate a solid understanding of the known indicators of child abuse and the procedures that they should take in the event of a concern about a child in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children are actively involved in helping to plan the range of activities and play materials that are provided each day. As a result, children are enthusiastic about their play and thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting. Activities include those which encourage children's imaginative, creative and physical development. There is an excellent range of resources available, suitable for the ages and stages of development of children in attendance. The daily routine is flexibly applied to ensure that children are able to follow their own interests, for example, children make decisions about when they are ready to go outside. They have plenty of opportunities to engage in physical activity or rest and relax after a busy day at school, in line with their own individual needs and preferences. Children benefit from enthusiastic staff who work directly with them, involving themselves and interacting with the children as they play. This helps children to feel emotionally secure and promotes trusting relationships.

Children comment 'I love coming here' when talking about their time at the setting. They enjoy arts, crafts, colouring and drawing. They produce pictures using beads and enjoy role play with small world toys and resources. For example, they use model dinosaurs and act out baking cakes in the toy oven. They learn about cooperation, sharing and playing fairly as they play board games with their peers and also have plenty of opportunities to rest and relax after a busy day at school with a wide range of books. They enjoy warm praise and encouragement from staff, which develops their self-esteem and enjoy the friendly relationships that they have with them. They enjoy spending time with their peers and also with the staff, talking about their day and things that are important to them, such as activities that they enjoy with their families at the weekend.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children have a strong sense of belonging and of their own identity within the group. They are confident to express their wants and needs and are valued and respected by staff, who provide care in line with their individual needs. Children participate in a range of activities that promotes their appreciation of the world in which they live and diversity within society. They enjoy art and craft activities as they celebrate Chinese New Year and Mother's Day. They have access to a range of resources that promote positive images of diversity in everyday play situations. There are excellent procedures in place to identify and support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Strong partnerships between staff, parents, school teachers and external

agencies effectively promote children's well-being and help each child develop their full potential.

Children behave exceptionally well and relish their time at the setting, They are absorbed in their play and the activities on offer, making decisions about what they would like to play with and how they would like to spend their time. Staff demonstrate a solid understanding of effective behaviour management strategies and work in partnership with children to produce agreed rules for the club. As a result, children are provided with responsibility and develop an understanding of right from wrong. Parents and staff enjoy open and honest relationships and verbally exchange information each day about the care of their child. Staff ensure that important information from school is relayed to parents when they arrive to collect their child to ensure that they are well informed. Parents are able to access the range of policies and procedures available at any time, which are attractively presented in a portfolio.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

Children's care is enhanced through the high quality organisation of the childcare provision and the very good management systems in place. Staff are enthusiastic and motivated in their work with children, actively involving themselves in their play and making the best possible use of their time. They are well deployed, ensuring that children are safe, secure and happy in their care environment. They interact with the children, responding to them and listening to their ideas. They quickly respond to children's requests, for example, when children are ready to go and play outdoors. Robust recruitment, vetting and induction procedures are in place to ensure that children are cared for by experienced, qualified and suitable staff. Appraisal systems are in place and are formed from direct observations of staff working with children. There is a strong commitment to training from the management team and all staff attend ongoing training and information sessions to further extend the care and play opportunities provided to children.

All of the required documentation that promotes children's health, safety and well-being is in place and well maintained. They are securely stored to ensure that confidentiality is maintained. The range of policies and procedures work in practice to promote children's health, safety and well-being. They are readily available to parents and are clearly understood by staff. Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 outstanding. 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

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

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