



Kidzone@Spring Bank

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY242626
Inspection date	22 March 2007
Inspector	Paula Fretwell
Setting Address	Spring Bank School, Spring Road, Leeds, LS6 1AD
Telephone number	07708879920
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Registered person	Kidzone@Springbank
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?

Kidzone@Spring Bank is a privately run provision which has been registered since 1998. It operates from the community room at Spring Bank School in the Headingley area of Leeds. The Out of school club serves children from the school.

There are currently 45 children on roll who attend for a variety of sessions. The setting welcomes children with learning difficulties and disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week in term time. Sessions are from 08.00 until 09.00 and 15.30 until 17.45.

Three members of staff work with the children. Less than half are suitably qualified for the post.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is suitably maintained through hygienic practices which prevent the risk of cross infection. Children are aware of the importance of hand-washing and they wash their hands upon entering the setting after school. Sick children are not accepted into the provision, which ensures the health of others is protected. Parents are aware of this policy. Some staff have up to date first aid knowledge with which to attend to any minor injuries to children.

Children enjoy substantial healthy snacks, such as sandwiches and fresh fruit, which are available in appropriate quantities for their needs. Children freely access a choice of drinks at any time and this ensures they are not thirsty. Staff are aware of the children's individual dietary needs and they work closely with parents to ensure these are met.

Daily opportunities for children to use the adjacent outdoor area and school hall ensure they enjoy regular physical exercise and fresh air. Children are enthusiastic about playing outside and they are able to do so in most weathers. The fully enclosed outdoor area provides many opportunities for children to develop their physical skills and suitable equipment is available.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

The environment is welcoming to children with plenty of art work attractively displayed. Children's security is maintained because the access to the setting is controlled by staff who only allow authorised adults to collect children. Staff take suitable safety precautions in the setting and they ensure close supervision of children to ensure their safety. A basic range of toys and equipment is safe, suitable and used appropriately to meet the children's needs. Children can freely choose their own activities and find what they need to support their play. There is suitable provision for children to rest and relax if they need to.

The play environment is safe and well maintained. Children understand how to keep themselves safe, and reminders from staff help to reinforce this, such as sitting properly on chairs. Children understand what to do in the event of a fire and they know to evacuate quickly, calmly and sensibly upon hearing the alarm. Fire drills are regularly practised and details are recorded to monitor their efficiency.

Staff have an understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children. However, they are unclear of what to do should they have concerns about a child because no recent training has been undertaken. The procedure to follow does not clearly state who concerns or allegations would be reported to in order to safeguard children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled and happy in the homely environment and they enjoy each others' company. Activities are organised to enable children to have a variety of different choices suitable for their interests. Children are confident to make their needs known and there are friendly relationships between children and staff. Children engage in purposeful play, such as making Easter cards, playing magnetic darts or dressing up as crocodiles, dragons and bridesmaids. Staff join in to enhance children's play and they show an interest in what the children are doing. Children are able to relax and rest within comfortable seating areas if they feel tired and staff are observant of their needs, giving individual attention if required.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn about their own and the wider world through planned activities, such as looking at different cultural festivals. All children are valued and welcome in the setting and although there are few available resources which reflect positive images of race, ethnicity, gender and disability, such items can be borrowed from within school. Children all have fair access to the activities on offer and staff are familiar with the setting's equal opportunities policy. Staff work closely with parents to meet children's individual needs and they ensure each child is equally included and involved.

Children behave well and staff give plenty of encouragement to ensure they feel confident and valued. Clear explanations are given to children if unwanted behaviour occurs and children are encouraged to respect other people's feelings. Staff are positive role models for children's behaviour and as a result, children are polite and courteous, using their manners well in their interaction with each other.

Parents are made welcome and they are happy with the care their children receive and the service provided. There are daily opportunities for parents to speak with staff and be involved in their child's time at the setting. Information is verbally exchanged with parents about their child and parents are assured of confidentiality.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The setting is organised to enable children access their own resources safely and they can see or reach what they need to support their play.

There are appropriate procedures in place for appointing staff, and the providers are aware of their responsibility to ensure all staff are suitable. All minimum staff to child ratios are maintained and staffing levels are adjusted according to children's attendance, with extra members of staff available if required. However, more than half the staff do not have a recognised qualification appropriate for the care or development of children and this is a breach of regulations.

An organisational plan is in place for the running of the setting. Effective organisation ensures children are collected from school promptly and safely. Staff work efficiently together and communicate well with one another to ensure the children's needs are met. Policies and procedures mostly support the practice and these are available to parents upon request. All required documentation is up to date and filed securely.

Overall, the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was given actions to improve documentation. These have been satisfactorily addressed and all documentation is in place and confidentially stored on the premises. The provider was asked to improve the accessibility of space and equipment for children and monitor the access to the setting in order to ensure children stay safe. The provider has addressed these issues so children's safety is promoted. The provider was also asked to develop all staff's knowledge and understanding regarding child protection procedures. This has not satisfactorily been addressed and remains an issue for this inspection.

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:

- develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half of all childcare staff will hold a level 2 qualification in childcare
- ensure that staff have up to date knowledge of the child protection procedure and ensure it complies with those of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

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