

Burdett Coutts Out Of School Group & Holiday Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number Inspection date Inspector	135019 28 March 2007 Lorna Lorraine Hall
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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?

Burdett Coutts Out of School Group & Holiday Play Scheme provide breakfast club, after school club and holiday play scheme, it opened in 1995. It operates from the ground floor school hall at Burdett Coutts Church of England Primary School in Westminster. The provision serves families of children attending the school.

There are currently 28 children from four to seven years on roll and there are also 46 children aged eight - 11 on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special educational needs and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week throughout the year. Sessions are from 08:00 until 09:00 and 15:30 until 18:00 during term times and during the school holidays sessions are from 08:00 until 18:00.

More than 50% hold a recognised childcare qualification. The group also use the skills of a football coach for one session each week.

The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, EYDCP.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children benefit from well-balanced and nutritious snacks and parents are encouraged to provide healthy packed lunches. At the breakfast club and during holiday play schemes they enjoy a cooked breakfast. Drinking water is available at all times for children to help themselves.

Children are generally protected from infection, because staff use effective procedures and encourage children to follow good hygiene practice, for example, by washing their hands before eating. Parents receive good information about the care and exclusion of children who are ill.

Accidents to the children are appropriately dealt with because staff have up to date first aid training. Documentation is in place to ensure medical information is recorded in line with regulations.

Children enjoy physical exercise as they join in organised games in the play ground, for example, football, skipping and hopscotch.

Children have an enthusiastic approach to games and outside play because staff provide excellent resources and give them the responsibility for taking a lead role within the games.

Where possible, children's suggestions are put into place.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a bright, clean and spacious environment, their art work is beautifully displayed in the main hall. They have easy and safe access to a wealth of very good play equipment appropriate to their age and interests.

Activities are successfully displayed on brightly coloured rugs and on table tops. Children spend a long time at these activities to create beautiful designs.

Effective safety systems are in place, for example, children are escorted into the main hall and stay there until all the other children have gone home and the main gate is locked. Visitors to the premises are monitored, for example, they must report to the reception and sign themselves in and out. The reception is also opened during the holiday play scheme and breakfast club.

Children are transported safely because good procedures are adhered to and the minibus is adequately insured and maintained.

Staff have a very good knowledge of the environment they work in and carry out daily risk assessments to ensure indoor and outdoor areas are safe.

Children are well protected because staff have a clear understanding of child protection policies and procedures and give priority to children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and relaxed in the welcoming environment. They play an active part in the setting and enjoy making independent choices about their activities. Staff have a flexible approach to planning that allows children to extend the activities they enjoy.

Children benefit from having very good opportunities to share their ideas and discuss activities they would like to have or try at the breakfast club, after-school club/holiday play scheme. For example, a group of children spend a long time discussing why they are making birthday cards. Where possible, children's ideas and choices about activities and resources are put into practice.

During discussion, children proudly talk about the activities they enjoy, namely the beautiful display of wild animals on a rug, the home corner and various other activities.

There are many opportunities for the children to take part in local projects. For example, a visit from the media resulted in a media coverage of the children creating beautiful collages.

Children enjoy outdoor sports such as football because a qualified coach conducts it. Some of the children regularly attend after school activities such as dance.

Children are motivated and interested especially during the holiday play scheme because they have use of computers and laptops, and outings to interesting places such as Chessington World of Adventures.

Children are self-assured and confident to try new experiences because the staff show real interest in what the children say and provide the right level of support. Children proudly show their work to each other.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are welcomed and settle quickly in the breakfast, holiday club and after school club because staff value and respect their individuality. Children are very friendly and polite, they confidently repeat the ground rules when asked to do so by a visitor to the after school club.

There are many opportunities for them to learn about other cultures and diversity in the local and wider community. For example, they make visits to the local almshouse to sing Christmas carols and recently they took part in various events to raise funds for "Comic Relief".

They learn about, local and national projects through involvement and visitors from the media.

There is very good support for children who have learning difficulties because they are cared for by staff who are suitably qualified and experienced to care for them.

Children are well behaved because they build good relationships with staff and each other. They work harmoniously together, listen to each other and pass on relevant information to staff. Suitable methods are in place to manage their behaviour, for example, a colour card system and a red card is the ultimate sanction. Children respond enthusiastically to staffs good use of praise and encouragement and are happy to carry out their requests. There is a strong emphasis on promoting good partnership with parents; this contributes significantly to the children's well-being within the setting. Parents benefit greatly from the regular information that is shared. For example, they receive clear information about the different activities and the policies and procedures that underpin the good service they receive. However, the complaint procedure needs updating in line with regulations. The good relationship the parents enjoy with staff is consistent because they also work at the breakfast club, after school club and holiday play scheme. Consequently, staff will approach the school on behalf of the parents if asked to do so. This results in children, being happy and settled whilst they are at the breakfast club, after school and holiday play scheme.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The environment is well organised, stimulating and welcoming, and good use is made of the available space. Staff work well together and are effectively deployed to support the school appropriately. They use their specialised knowledge to ensure all the children spend their time purposefully and learn new skills.

Strong links, with various childcare organisations ensure staff receive good information about changes in their field of work.

The registered person uses effective recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified.

To show their commitment to providing a good service, the breakfast club, out of school group and holiday play scheme have developed systems to evaluate their service every term.

Written information on the children is appropriately stored and most meet regulations.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Good progress has been made in addressing the one recommendation made at the last inspection, the recommendation related to documentation.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required 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):

• update complaints procedures in line with regulations

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