



Scamps Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY268471
Inspection date	13 September 2005
Inspector	Gill Ogden
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Registered person	Scamps Club
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Scamps Club was registered in 2004. It provides after school care for children aged between 4 and 8 and operates from a classroom in Scampton Primary School, in the village of Scampton, Lincolnshire. The club uses the school hall, playground and field.

A maximum of 32 children may attend the out of school club at any one time. There are currently 50 children on roll who are all pupils at the school. The club is open each weekday from 15:40 to 17:15, during school term-time.

The club employs two core staff to work with children. Both staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are learning about the importance of keeping healthy by being cared for in clean premises and by staff encouraging them to maintain and understand the need for good personal hygiene. For example, all the children automatically go and wash their hands when they enter the club before sitting down for their snack. If any of them do forget then they are reminded by the others. A clear policy regarding exclusion periods for children with infectious illnesses further supports a care environment where cross-infection is minimised. Staff members have current first aid training so are able to deal with any accidents appropriately.

A nourishing snack is provided for children at each session which includes healthy options such as fruit, salad vegetables, meat sandwiches and yoghurt. Children thoroughly enjoy this along with a drink. There is fresh water available at all times and no added sugar squash.

Children have regular physical exercise outdoors which they enjoy and which contributes to their overall healthy development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a safe environment by staff who are aware of potential hazards and make every effort to minimise them. For example, the club is using a new hall and a risk assessment has been carried out to identify any potentially problematic areas. All the necessary safety equipment is in place such as radiator guards. Systems are in place to monitor children's arrival and departure and the building is secure. Children understand the rules that are in place to protect them, such as refraining from running to reduce accidents and there is plenty of space so they can move around safely. They take part in regular fire drills and as a result know how to evacuate the building quickly if necessary.

Children are safeguarded through staff understanding their child protection responsibilities. The club has all the required information to enable any situation to be dealt with satisfactorily but the child protection procedures lack some detail.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, settled and enjoy attending the club. They are free to choose the

activities they take part in and they contribute ideas towards activity planning. Photographs show them enjoying sports activities, investigating animals that are around in winter, mask making, taking part in World Book Day and playing music together as a band. They persevere and concentrate during craft activities and hugely enjoy dressing up, laughing at what they look like and having their photographs taken. They have easy, friendly relationships with the staff, who know them well. Children play co-operatively together and have lots of conversations and some healthy disagreements with each other. They are able to do their homework in a quiet area if they so wish.

There are enough play resources to support most activities for the children and the supervisor works hard to make the most of what is available and to supplement it by, for example, using the library and borrowing equipment from others, such as a parachute.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are confident and have a good self-image because staff follow clear equal opportunities guidelines and are able to put them into practice. They encourage the children to respect each other and are good role models for them. Children enjoy some activities that help them understand about the wider world but resources for this area are limited.

Children behave well on the whole because they are aware of what is expected of them. Staff use their knowledge of individual children and appropriate behaviour management methods to deal with any incidents of unacceptable behaviour quickly and effectively. There are policies in place to support practice but not all aspects are covered sufficiently.

Children's care needs are supported as a result of the club working in partnership with parents. Information is gathered at registration that provides a sound basis for children's care and ongoing chats with parents each day builds on this. Parents are consulted about the development of the provision, for example, through questionnaires. As a result the club intends to provide hot meals for the children. The majority of the management committee is made up of parents so they have direct responsibility for the club.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are looked after by suitably qualified staff who are keen, enthusiastic and enjoy their work. Staff are still experimenting with the layout of the new room to discover the best way to organise it to meet children's needs. Although only two core staff are employed to care for the children, others can be brought in easily in case of emergency.

All the required documents and records are in place but some policies lack the necessary detail and as a result the framework for children's care is weakened. Overall, the needs of the children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the club was asked to increase the resources it had that reflect positive images of all members of society. The club has not yet managed to do this and so a further recommendation is made in this report.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 satisfactory. 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):

- increase equipment and resources especially for large physical play and that reflects positive images of all members of society
- ensure all policies and procedures are reviewed and updated, paying particular attention to including a procedure in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff in the child protection policy and a statement on anti-bullying in the behaviour policy.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk