



Hately Heath Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	255163
Inspection date	07 March 2007
Inspector	Karen Cooper
Setting Address	Wiltshire Way, Hateley Heath, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 1JN
Telephone number	0121 505 2854
E-mail	
Registered person	Sandwell Adventure Play Association
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?

Hately Heath out of school club opened in 1993. It operates from a purpose built community centre in the Hately Heath area of West Bromwich. The club serves children and their families within the community.

There are currently fifty six children from four to fourteen years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The club supports children with disabilities and learning difficulties.

The club opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 15:15 until 18:00 during school term times and from 08:00 until 18:00 during school holidays.

Four full-time staff work with the children. All of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn the importance of personal hygiene through daily routines and appropriate adult support and guidance. Staff take steps to prevent the spread of infection by keeping the premises clean and ensuring soap and paper towels are readily available for children to use. Children know that they wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. Children are effectively protected from the spread of infection with a written sickness policy by which the parents are informed that children will not be cared for when they have any infectious illness. The children are appropriately cared for in the event of an accident and the club maintains clear records, which are shared with parents. The children's welfare is protected as staff ensures that their first aid knowledge is kept up-to-date and that the well-stocked first aid box is kept readily to hand.

Children are provided with a drink at snack time and have independent access to jugs of juice which ensures that they do not becoming dehydrated particularly during physical activities. Children are provided with a snack during the session or can purchase food from the tuc shop. However, food provided is not always nutritious therefore, children's health is not fully promoted.

Staff ensure children are provided with plenty of opportunities for physical play. Children enjoy dancing to music and participating in organised ball games. They confidently use a range of large equipment such as a pool table and enthusiastically participate in karaoke sessions.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The children benefit from a warm and welcoming environment where space is organised effectively to ensure they can rest, play and eat safely. There is a good range of suitable furniture, equipment and toys to meet the needs of the children which are kept clean, in a good state of repair and regularly checked for safety.

Children are sufficiently supervised to ensure they are safe at all times. Staff carry out regular safety checks on the premises before each session and appropriate precautions are taken to prevent any accidents. Good security procedures are in place for example, external doors are locked and parents ring the bell to alter the attention of staff, the outdoor area is fully enclosed and visitors are requested to sign in and out of the premises. Children learn about their own safety through discussion and staff ensure that they regularly practise emergency evacuation procedures to ensure that they know where to go to stay safe. Fire equipment is regularly tested however, electrical equipment is not therefore, children's safety is potentially being compromised.

Staff are aware of their role and responsibility to protect children in their care. They are aware of signs and symptoms of possible abuse and know the appropriate procedures to follow should they have a concern about a child. However, staff are not fully aware of procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation of abuse.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are provided with a good variety of toys and activities that encourage them to make progress in their development. They are able to access the toys and resources easily, although some activities are set out prior to the children arriving, they can request others. The children are interested and enjoy their play. They frequently participate in creative activities such as making 'mother's day' cards. They use their imagination well when constructing with magnetic objects and concentrate well when joining in a computer game with friends.

A flexible approach to planning and an appropriate balance between adult and child-led activities allows children to play and learn at their own pace. The children are sociable and close and caring relationships with staff increase their sense of trust and help them develop a strong sense of belonging. This enables the children to make good progress in their personal, social and emotional development. Children are cared for as individuals with different needs and the staff ensures that they are provided with activities that are adapted for different stages of development. Children work well as part of a group, understand shared rules and play harmoniously with others.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to the full range of activities regardless of age, ability or gender. They are treated with equal concern and any differences respected. The children join in with activities that encouraged them to appreciate and value each other's similarities and differences, such as cultural and traditional events. Books, imaginative props, dressing up clothes and figures provide positive images of culture, disability and gender, which encourage the children to appreciate similarities and differences of others. The club welcomes children with disabilities and learning difficulties and ensures that all children can access and participate in all activities offered.

Children benefit from the staff's understanding of behaviour management. Staff promote a calm organised environment and are good role models. They are consistent in their dealings of the children and work diligently to reinforce good behaviour. The children are happy, settled and respond well to clear explanations, praise and encouragement.

Effective partnership with parents means that the children are confident and happy to stay with familiar and trusted adults. Children's records are regularly updated and verbal information is frequently exchanged with parents to ensure that the needs of the children are being met. Policies and procedures are displayed for parents to view. However, the complaints procedure does not include the regulators name and address therefore, parents may not be fully aware of how to raise a concern.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are at ease and confident to initiate their own activities. They enjoy their time at the setting and participate fully in activities because space and resources are organised effectively to ensure they are able to rest, play and eat comfortably. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures ensures children are cared for by suitable staff. Staff work well as a team and are well deployed, which effectively supports children's learning and play.

Most documentation which contributes to the children's health, safety and well-being is in place and is reviewed regularly and shared with parents. Children's records are clear, easily accessible and stored securely to ensure confidentiality is maintained. Parents share and contribute to records about their children. This helps ensure children are cared for safely and in accordance with parent's wishes. Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the staff were requested to ensure that all staff are aware of the details in the contract between the setting and parents; make sure that the premises are secure and that children are unable to leave them unsupervised; provide opportunities for parents to have access to all policies and procedures and ensure that all portable electrical equipment has regular checks.

The setting has made satisfactory progress in addressing the recommendations that were made at the previous inspection. Partnership with parent is promoted as policies and procedures are displayed and children's records are regularly updated and shared with parents to ensure that the needs of the children are being met. Children's safety is protected because good security procedures ensure that children are unable to leave the premises unsupervised. For example, external doors are locked and the outdoor area is fully enclosed. However, checks have not been carried out on any electrical equipment therefore, this has been carried forward as a recommendation as part of this inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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 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):

- promote children's well-being by ensuring healthy foods options are provided
- ensure that all portable electrical equipment is regularly checked and develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures with regard to an allegation of abuse
- ensure the complaints procedure includes the regulators name and address.

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