

# Schools Out! Yardley Gobion After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique Reference Number** EY245732  
**Inspection date** 17 May 2007  
**Inspector** Ann Austen

**Setting Address** Childrens Centre, School Lane, Yardley Gobion, Northamptonshire,  
NN12 7UL

**Telephone number**

**E-mail**

**Registered person** School's Out

**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](http://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?

Schools Out After School Club opened in 2002 and operates from the Children's Centre in the village of Yardley Gobion, Northamptonshire. Children have access to the hall, a secure enclosed outdoor play area, the adjoining school's gymnasium and the school playground.

A maximum of 20 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 15:15 to 18:00 during term time and from 08:30 to 18:00 during the school holidays. Children attend from the adjoining school and from the wider area.

The club employs twelve staff. Nine members of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a comfortable environment. They are beginning to learn the importance of good hygiene practices through daily routines, in order to prevent the spread of infection.

Generally, children wash their hands at appropriate times during the session. However, this is not always sufficiently reinforced by staff. For example, children do not always wash their hands before snack. Children's well-being is sustained because staff have up-to-date first aid knowledge. Secure procedures ensure that staff record and monitor accidents, and arrangements are in place for the safe administration of medicines and for emergency medical advice or treatment.

Children enjoy regular outdoor play and benefit from the fresh air and exercise. This helps support their continued growth and development as part of a healthy lifestyle. They enthusiastically take part in activities in the enclosed outdoor area and in the school playground. Children roller-blade, play tennis and enjoy using the monkey bars, climbing wall, slide and balance bridge on the large climbing frame. They use skateboards and steer the go-carts. Children play parachute games, dance on the dance mat and enjoy playing football, basket ball, volley ball and hockey. They have opportunities for relaxation with quieter activities such as painting, drawing and using the computer.

Children are well nourished because staff provide them with regular drinks and food that are nutritious and comply with their dietary and religious needs. Their healthy growth and development is promoted because they enjoy fresh fruit and vegetables, hotdogs, pasta, cereals, toasted bagels and ham and chicken wraps. Children know they should take on fluids as a way to maintain their health and have access to water from a covered jug. This ensures that children remain well hydrated and comfortable.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment. This is enhanced by posters, the large 'jungle book' mural, photographs and wall displays of a recent trip to the safari park. Children use a wide range of safe, good quality resources, furniture and equipment, which supports their play and development. Staff monitor that these are safe and suitable for the children's individual needs and stages of development. Children are busy, interested and enjoy playing with the range of resources provided.

Children are cared for in a safe environment. Staff carry out regular risk assessments and daily checks to identify and reduce potential risks. For example, socket covers are in place, and a secure fence and gate prevents children having access to the pond. The premises are secure and clear procedures ensure that children are safely collected from school. Children are kept safe through staff monitoring visitors to the setting and procedures are in place to ensure that children are only released from the provision to individuals named by parents. They move around safely and independently because adults are appropriately deployed to ensure that children are well supervised. Children are developing an awareness of keeping safe by responding to the guidelines set out by the staff. They learn how to evacuate the building in the event of a fire and know that they must always be supervised by a staff member when they climb the tree. Children's welfare is well safeguarded because the staff have a good knowledge of local child protection procedures and understand their responsibilities for the children in their care. Staff are vigilant, aware of the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and know the appropriate procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child.

## **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are confident and settled in the friendly provision. The atmosphere is happy and relaxed, children laugh and have fun. They enthusiastically take part in planned and spontaneous activities and are able to relax after a busy day at school. Children enjoy outdoor play and games and benefit from the sense of freedom and opportunity to be active. They experience warm, caring and friendly relationships with staff who take time to listen to the children and support them as they play. This helps their sense of security and well-being. Children express themselves creatively during craft activities where they paint, stick, make jewellery money boxes, decorate cups, make models out of recycled materials and make 'hammer' bead pictures. They are very proud of their achievements. Children sit quietly and create lego models and make cardboard 'pop stars'. They use their imaginations as they play with the dolls house and handle small world figures. Children learn to share and take turns as they play board games and patiently wait their turn on the computer. They learn about the world around them through first hand experiences. Children enjoy mini beast hunts around the forest, go pond dipping and make worm farms. During the school holidays children enjoy regular trips to broaden their range of experiences. Children go ten pin bowling, and visit places of interest such as Warwick Castle, the National Space Centre, adventure parks and the safari park.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are treated as individuals and are welcomed into the setting. They choose how to spend their time after school, involving themselves in quiet activities or being active when they play outdoors. Children are learning to work harmoniously with others and make choices and decisions. These all contribute to the children developing good self-esteem and respect for others. Children begin to develop a positive view of society and the wider world as they take part in activities and use resources that reflect diversity. For example, children celebrate festivals such as the Chinese New Year and enjoy the African drumming session. Children handle resources such as musical instruments, dolls, Chinese and Indian cooking utensils and dressing-up clothes that acknowledge other cultures. However, resources that help children appreciate the needs of people with disabilities are limited. Children are generally well behaved because staff discuss expectations, boundaries and safe conduct. Staff provide good role models for the children by being calm and polite. Praise is given freely to children, enabling them to develop their confidence and self-esteem. Staff have experience of providing care for children with identified special needs. They ensure that the needs of all children are recognised and met sensitively, and that they are included in all aspects of the provision.

Children's individual needs are met because staff have developed an effective partnership with parents. Parents are given information about the setting, including the policies and procedures. They receive regular newsletters. Systems are in place to exchange information, which helps to ensure continuous and consistent care for the children.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children feel at home and at ease in the well-organised environment. Indoor and outdoor space is laid out to maximize play opportunities for children, and routines and resources are organised well to meet the children's needs. Children are confident to initiate equipment and resources

to extend their own play and learning, as well as receiving a good level of adult support and encouragement. Staff are deployed well to provide good supervision and this allows children to mix and interact across the age range of the primary school. Children's welfare, care and learning is promoted by a range of records, policies and procedures. Records are stored securely and confidentiality is maintained. Vetting procedures are in place to check suitability of staff. Adult to child ratios are good and staff hold appropriate qualifications. However, the regulation required to notify Ofsted of changes to the manager has not been met. This has the potential to impact on the children's welfare because the suitability of this individual has not been checked. Overall, children's needs are met.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the club was asked to improve three aspects of the provision. A deputy is now in place which ensures that a named person is able to take charge of the facility in the absence of the manager. Drinks are now stored appropriately in a covered jug in order to prevent the spread of infection and close supervision ensures that the kitchen is inaccessible to children. This ensures the children's safety.

### **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 by 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):

- continue to reinforce children's personal hygiene skills in order to prevent the spread of infection
- continue to develop resources that promote positive images of disability
- ensure that Ofsted is notified of any significant changes, with particular reference to a change of manager.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)