

Crafty Kidz Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	223207
Inspection date	19 April 2007
Inspector	Janice Rizvi
Setting Address	Woodcote School, Willowbrook Close, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, LE65 1JX
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Registered person	Elaine Blunt
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?

Crafty Kidz Club was registered in September 1997 and is privately owned. It operates from the main hall of Woodcote School in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. The club serves children attending this school and others in the local area.

The club is registered to care for a maximum of 48 children at any one time. There are currently 96 children from four to 12 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties and or disabilities. The group opens five days a week during term time from 15:00 to 18:00 and daily from 08:00 to 17:30 in school holidays.

There are four staff working with children, inclusive of the manager. All of whom have an appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health within the setting is supported by adults that have an overall knowledge of the club's health and hygiene policies. Children use the wash hand basins independently after using the toilet. They know why its important to wash their hands 'or they will get sick'. However children use a communal bowl system in the main play area to rinse the soap of their hands, prior to snack time. This is a potential risk of cross-infection. They enjoy a balanced range of physical exercise throughout the session and learn about the importance of activity and fresh air as they join in free play and organised activities on the school field. For example, children enjoy playing team games, such as football, running using balls and skipping ropes.

Sick children are cared for appropriately, being allowed time and space to rest if needed. Parents are contacted if required and children with infectious illnesses are excluded. This helps to reduce the risk of spreading infection. Cleaning is regularly maintained. This assists in ensuring the environment is suitably clean for children. Individual medication records are maintained and adults are aware of children's health needs. Written parental permission for seeking emergency medical treatment or advice is in place. This means that children will receive prompt medical attention in the event of a medical emergency.

Children and adults sit together for the main snack of the session. Children enjoy their freshly prepared meals in a social atmosphere. They have a choice of nutritious and healthy food with a menu clearly displayed for parents and children. Adults consistently refer to the list of allergies. Drinks are available throughout the session and children help themselves when needed. This good practice ensures their dietary needs are met and fluid levels maintained.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are collected and transported by staff from surrounding schools, or arrive at the school hall door from the school on site. Adults ensure children are transported safely having regard to the new law on car seats and seat belts. For example children's height is measured on a height chart to check if a booster seat is required and staff carry a list of children to be collected each day. Children enter with enthusiasm to a welcoming, well laid out and safe environment. Resources available are appropriate to the age of child using them and easily accessible. Children's risk of accidental injury in the setting is reduced. A risk assessment is undertaken each session of both indoors and outdoors. Children learn to keep themselves safe because staff remind them of issues as they occur and offer explanations. For example, children know they never enter the kitchen. The rules for safety are clearly displayed. This helps to raise children's awareness and take some responsibility for their own safety.

Emergency evacuation of the building is regularly undertaken. This helps to ensure children know what to do in the case of a real emergency. Children are provided with good quality furniture and play equipment, suitable to meet their different needs. Toys and activities are changed on a daily basis, to ensure children have variety and use toys that are appropriate to their age. Children are interested and kept occupied with the range of toys and resources that are available.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic and self-assured in the club, particularly when choosing to play with construction toys, electronic hand held games, personal music players and imaginative games. Children take an active part in planning activities which are pinned up on the wall. Planning is done a week ahead and favourite choices are 'Pasta Hairstyles', 'Wacky Windsocks', cotton bud painting, Indian head dress painting and football. After children have planned their activities, adults prepare the art and craft trolley ready for the session. Children are absorbed and relaxed in their play and well behaved. They enjoy their time at the club where they play with their friends and develop new skills. Children say 'they like coming', they enjoy it and 'you can choose what you do'. They readily question and express their opinions such as asking for alternative games and toys.

Children are supported by the staff that encourage children to extend their experiences and listen and respond to children's ideas. They use the well-presented, good quality resources to meet the needs of all the children. In addition, during holiday periods children are taken on daytrips and outings. The children are developing a sense of competition as they engage in teams games such as, football.

All children enjoy regular outside play in the large school field. They have great fun exploring the wooded area enjoying their make believe games and hiding behind the trees. The area is generally secure and provides children with space to play team games and other outdoor activities. All these opportunities enhance children's sense of adventure as they discover their wider environment and new experiences.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children behave considerately at all times. They share resources and negotiate whose turn it is next, without adult intervention. They have a good awareness of expected codes of behaviour, such as 'treat people as you would expect to be treated' and being aware of their table manners at tea time. They know the reward sticker system for good behaviour and sanctions for negative behaviour. For example, 'you get a blue slip and if you get five, you can't come'. They added this rarely happened and thought it only happened 'about twice a year'.

To help children settle in, the club have key workers who set individual targets for each child such as, 'to make new friends' and 'good table manners'. These targets are reviewed with their key worker and when children achieve their targets they are awarded a certificate. This contributes to children's sense of achievement and helps with their social development. They develop their conversational skills at snack time, as they chat with each other and the adults present. Children increase self-esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions, choose their favourite activities and discuss their individual needs and preferences with staff. They have a strong sense of belonging to their club, they are settled and relaxed. When asked 'what would they do if someone did something they did not like' they quickly said they would tell a member of staff.

Currently there are children with additional needs, learning difficulties and or disabilities attending. Staff have effective policies and procedures to ensure the children are fully included and supported within the club. This helps to ensure children have their individual needs met. Children learn to appreciate other cultures and beliefs as they celebrate different festivals such

as Easter, Diwali and Hanukah. They talk about their families and carry through some activities from their school day.

Parents are provided with notice boards displaying policies, procedures and operational details. They have a fully detailed information pack to take home. Regular newsletters inform parents on forthcoming trips, outings and holiday opening dates. There is a clear complaints policy and procedure for parents with the regulator's contact details. This means that parents are provided with sufficient accurate information to make a complaint. A parents' group meets quarterly where parents contribute to the policies of the club. For example, the behaviour policy is currently being reviewed together with parents, looking at introducing a new 'traffic light' system, that is operated in some local schools. Staff make parents welcome and offer flexible care. This participation and good relationship with parents ensures consistency and benefits the care of children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for by qualified staff that have knowledge and experience of how to promote the care and well-being of children. The registered person uses effective recruitment, vetting and induction procedures to ensure staff are aware of the operational policies within the club. This ensures children are provided with appropriate activities to promote their health, safety and enjoyment. The procedures to ensure the continued suitability of the staff are robust and ensure staff inform the manager of significant changes to their lifestyle which may affect their suitability to care for children.

Good teamwork makes sure staff work well together to promote children's achievements. Activities both inside and outside are organised with high staffing levels to ensure children are safe and supported. Planned activities allow children to be grouped according to their individual likes and dislikes. Staff have agreed security arrangements for the delivery and collection of children which are discussed with children and parents. The registration certificate is on a display board so that parents are aware of the total registered numbers of the club.

There is clear floor space for indoor group games and physical exercise. The outdoor space is utilised to maximise play opportunities for children. All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place and frequently under review and updated. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was asked to improve the safety of the main hall by making the storage area in the main hall inaccessible to children; to meet any recommendations made by the fire officer and also to meet any recommendations made by the environmental health officer.

The dividing doors are now kept shut in the school hall, making the storage area inaccessible to children. A separate room has been allocated to the club for storage, adjacent to the main hall area. The fire officer visited and made no further recommendations. The environmental health officer visited and recommendations to check the temperatures of hot food being

transported have been met. All food is tested with a temperature probe and recorded as required. The provider's attention to the above issues have improved outcomes for children.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 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 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):

- review children's hand washing facilities to ensure they help to reduce the spread of infection.

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