

Bradley Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	311468
Inspection date	11 July 2007
Inspector	Angela Margaret Ellis

Setting Address	Bradley Community Centre, St Thomas Gardens, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD2 1UZ
Telephone number	01484 223188
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Registered person	Bradley Out of School 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?

Bradley Out of School Club opened in 1998 and operates from a detached single storey building in Bradley, within walking distance of Bradley Junior & Infant School and main bus routes from Huddersfield Town centre. It is managed by a committee. The club has access to a large open play room for play and activities, with kitchen and toilet facilities. The premises benefit from access to an enclosed outdoor play area. At the time of the inspection the club are operating in temporary premises until repairs are completed on the permanent premises, following a recent fire. The temporary premises have equivalent facilities and stand adjacent to the permanent premises.

A maximum of 32 children may attend the out of school club at any one time from 3 years to 11 years. There are currently 31 children on roll. The club is open from 07.30 until 08.45 and 15.00 until 18.00 five days a week, during term times. During school holidays, the club is open from 08.00 until 18.00.

The club serves the local community and children attend for a variety of sessions. The club has systems in place to support children who have learning difficulties or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language.

There are four regular part-time staff who work with the children. One member of staff has an early years qualification to level 3 and several staff have level 2 qualifications. The club receives support from the Local Authority and is a member of the Kids Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a bright, warm and clean environment, where they are helped and encouraged to develop good personal hygiene practices. They wash their hands before and after snacks, after messy play and after going to the toilet and know why it is important. This contributes to maintaining good levels of hygiene. Staff act in children's best interests when they are ill and there are clear procedures to protect others from illness and infection.

Children are learning to develop an understanding of a healthy diet well and the club recently achieved a gold healthy choice award. Food and drink are stored and prepared effectively reducing the risk to children's health. Food choices are healthy and nutritionally balanced to meet dietary needs and requirements, essential for their well-being, healthy growth and development. Children are offered a varied balance of healthy snacks. For example, the children are offered a selection of sandwiches that are attractively presented. Snack times are used effectively to maximise opportunities for independence, social development and interaction. Staff comply with children's special dietary requirements to ensure children remain healthy.

Children enjoy regular physical activities both indoors and out, contributing to their physical development and promoting a positive approach to exercise. For example, children show enthusiasm when going out to play to release their energy where they have access to a variety of equipment, which helps them gain confidence and develop moving their bodies in various ways. During school holidays, regular outings take place to extend their experiences. Children rest and relax according to their individual needs because staff act in the best interests of the children.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are kept safe because any safety issues are appropriately minimised. Toys and equipment are well maintained, conform to safety standards and are appropriate for the children in attendance. This allows them the freedom to make safe choices and independently access opportunities in a welcoming, child-orientated environment.

The security of the premises, both indoors and outdoors, is appropriate. There are effective procedures in place to ensure a safe walk from the school to the club. Appropriate lost and uncollected child procedures are in place. Fire procedures are appropriately in place, however, a fire drill has not been practised in the temporary premises in order for children to keep themselves safe in the event of a fire.

Children's welfare is appropriately promoted and there are always several members of staff with a first aid qualification on the premises. All of the documentation related to health and safety is in place, for example, consent from parents for emergency medical advice and treatment. Accident and existing injuries records are systematically countersigned by parents to promote children's continuing care. Staff are aware of their responsibility to protect children and have

a child protection policy and up to date information is available in line with the new Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures. This contributes appropriately to safeguarding children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are provided with a good balance of activities, allowing for active play indoors, outdoors as well as time to relax. The range of activities on offer is appropriate to the ages and the interests of the children and independently accessible to all. They enjoy participating in activities of their choice in accordance with their individual needs and interests. This allows them to exercise their decision making skills. Staff achieve a good balance between supervised activities and those that allow for spontaneity. This allows children to create from their imagination. For example, there were some very good designs built with the construction equipment and children are eager to share with others in the club. Staff ensure that there is a fair allocation of time to popular activities, such as, the computer.

The children are confident, independent and content in their surroundings and play well together. Children learn to plan activities and contribute their ideas to activities. Staff are skilled at listening to children and, therefore, this helps to build positive relationships and develop self-esteem. The level of interaction is carefully balanced, allowing children to play and learn independently, initiating their own activities and exploring freely, as well as time for activities which need more support and direction from staff. There is evidence to show the good range of activities children are engaged in; through plans, displays and artwork. This demonstrates that children are enjoying and achieving well and this contributes to them feeling valued and respected.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children and their families are warmly welcomed by staff who are sensitive and value their individuality. Children are treated with equal concern and are fully included and involved. Inclusion is an integral part of the provision. Children become aware of similarities and differences and increase their understanding of the wider world, because staff and children attend from a variety of cultural backgrounds bringing with them a wealth of experience to share with each other. There is also a good range of activities and resources that reflect diversity and acknowledge cultural differences and disability. Children with specific needs are well supported when necessary, which ensures they are able to take part in all aspects of the club to facilitate their well-being.

Children learn that the club is at the heart of their local community because it is based close by to the local school where it has close liaison and collects from. This partnership with school helps to ease the transition for the children; especially when they move up from infants to juniors. Children observe and learn about their local environment and the seasons, observe wildlife whilst on their walk from the club to school as well as when playing outdoors and going on outings during the holidays to broaden their experiences.

Children learn to build respectful relationships with staff, each other and other living things as well as learning to respect furniture and equipment within their club. Children are involved in making behaviour rules and as a result they are clear about the boundaries and learn to be

kind, considerate and thoughtful to each other. Staff manage children's behaviour well and there is a consistent approach with staff offering explanations, and as a result children respond to staff requests.

Relationships with parents are friendly and staff are available to provide parents with verbal feedback after each session. This open, trusting and professional partnership helps to ensure children are settled and secure. Parents have comprehensive information about the setting and a number of policies and procedures are clearly available. The system for recording a complaint from a parent is sufficiently updated in line with the new regulations. There is a strong commitment to reviewing, evaluating and improving the service by seeking views from the children and parents in order to achieve the setting's vision. For example, through discussion, questionnaires and newsletters. Parents present during the inspection openly expressed their appreciation and were full of praise and gratitude for the hard work staff have put in to keep the club running in temporary premises since the recent fire.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's needs are being met through the sound organisation. The practitioners, supported by some of the committee have a clear vision and sense of purpose; to offer good quality extended out of school care within the local community for children and families. There is a positive commitment to keep up to date with current practice by all staff through attending training courses. Appropriate qualifications are met when the manager in day to day charge is present, however, she does not work at all sessions and was not in charge on the day of the inspection. There is a system in place for staff to deputise, however, these persons left in charge in the absence of the manager do not meet the qualification requirements for supervisory staff. Therefore this is a breach in regulations. A positive attitude to meeting the requirements is demonstrated by the staff who are enthusiastic, skilled and have a wealth of experience.

Children are appropriately supported in activities because staff to child ratios meet the minimum standards. Space and resources are used effectively and staff deployment when children are accessing both indoor and outdoor play is suitable. Staff have a good knowledge of play work principles enabling them to provide good play opportunities for children.

The care and welfare of children is well promoted. Staff generally have a sound understanding of the National Standards and guidelines and all of the required records and documentation are in place. However, Ofsted have not been informed of recent significant events and changes following a fire at the premises. This is a breach in regulations. The club is operating from temporary premises until repair work is completed. This has been a significant upheaval and staff and some committee members have worked tirelessly to keep the club open in order to provide continuity of care for the children and their families. This strong degree of commitment is commendable. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Good progress has been made since the last inspection. The club were asked to improve aspects of documentation with regard to some policies and procedures and staff records. As well as provide information to parents about which foods can be stored safely in packed lunches.

The required documentation is in now in place. The individual staff records now include a record of the induction procedure and policies and procedures are available to parents for the efficient management of the club. Since undertaking a course on healthy eating; staff have devised a nutrition policy and provided information for parents on the safe storage of food in packed lunch boxes. These steps have contributed to the club achieving the highest award from the Local Authority for their strong practice in helping children maintain good health.

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 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):

- ensure that the person in charge has at least a level 3 qualification appropriate to the post
- ensure that Ofsted are informed of any significant changes or events
- ensure that a fire drill is carried out in the temporary premises.

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