

kids United Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY344658

Inspection date 23 April 2007

Inspector Carla Owen

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Registered person Kids United Ltd

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?

Kids Unlimited Play School opened in 2006. It operates from two classrooms and the main hall of St Augustine's Church of England Primary School, which is situated in Pendlebury, a suburb of Swinton, Manchester. There are currently 26 children on roll, of these, seven are under eight years of age. A maximum of 32 school aged children may attend the out of school club at any one time. The group opens each weekday from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 17.45, term time only. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area. Three staff are available to work directly with the children, two of which hold an appropriate qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are welcomed into a clean and well maintained environment. They are learning basic health and hygiene routines as they wash their hands at appropriate times of the day, such as before eating and after toileting. Children are protected from cross-infection as there is an effective sick child policy in place. Children who are ill are excluded from the setting and parents are contacted if children become ill whilst at the club. Children are protected in the event of

an accident as most staff are qualified in first aid and a fully stocked first aid box is within reach.

Children benefit from a sound range of healthy snacks which promote their growth and development. Drinks are accessible at all times, allowing children to keep themselves refreshed and hydrated throughout the session. Opportunities are missed however, to develop children's independence and social skills during snack time.

Children's physical development is well promoted. Children benefit from regular exercise and fresh air as they play games, such as football, hockey, netball and skipping in the spacious outdoor area.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a bright and colourful environment. They are developing a sense of belonging as their work is clearly displayed around the room. Space is organised well to allow children to move around freely and make choices in their play, as all toys are stored at the children's height. Children are able to rest and play according to their needs. For example, some children choose to play football outside, whilst others quietly paint pictures indoors. An area is also allocated for children to relax and watch a video or read a book of their choice. Children access a sound range of toys and resources both indoors and outdoors, which are developmentally appropriate and of a good quality.

Children are kept safe as daily risk assessments are conducted both indoors and outdoors. Most potential hazards have been identified, however, some areas within the outdoor area, which are accessible to the children, pose a potential risk. Entrances and exits to the premises are secure, ensuring no unwanted visitors enter the building. Children are kept safe in the event of a fire as a clear emergency evacuation procedure is in place, which is practised regularly with the children, ensuring they are clear on what to do in the event of an emergency.

Children are protected as staff are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities in relation to child protection. They understand the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedure to follow should they have any concerns about a child's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are warmly welcomed within the setting. They receive a friendly greeting from staff, who enjoy hearing the children's news. Children form good relationships with staff and peers. They regularly ask staff members to join them in their play and have formed good friendships within the group. Children are confident and have good levels of self-esteem. Good settling in procedures ensure they are comfortable and secure within their surroundings.

A sound range of activities are planned for the children, including baking, modelling, gluing and sticking, painting and making masks. Great emphasis is placed on allowing children to make choices in their play. Children use their imagination as they move their bodies to music and dress up in a variety of different costumes. They are fully engaged in the activities on offer, for example, children concentrate for long periods of time as they make models using beads and enjoy playing games on the games console alongside their friends.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are gaining an appreciation of the wider world as they access a variety of resources, which reflect positive images of race, gender, culture and disability. They celebrate a variety of different festivals with planned activities to help children gain an understanding of different cultures. For example, the children taste foods from different countries, they make paper dragons during Chinese New Year and make lanterns during the Diwali festival.

Children with learning difficulties and disabilities are well supported within the setting. Staff understand the importance of working closely with parents, attending training and seeking advice from relevant professionals to ensure children's needs are met.

Children are very well behaved. They play harmoniously together and understand the boundaries of acceptable behaviour. Consistent strategies are used to manage children's behaviour and the club's rules, which are devised by the children, are clearly displayed.

Parents clearly value the club and its staff. Parents describe the setting as 'friendly' and appreciate the caring staff and 'family unit' which is created. A fully comprehensive, detailed information booklet is given to parents, which provides details about the club, along with its policies and procedures. Informal chats at the beginning and end of each day keeps parents up to date with the care provided for their children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff provide a safe and secure place for children to play where they are happy and relaxed. Good use is made of space. Activities are set out attractively to provide children with a sound range of play experiences and freedom of choice. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures ensure children are fully safeguarded. All staff who work directly with the children have an appropriate qualification, however, the manager is currently undergoing training to reach the basic requirement of holding a level 3 qualification.

Staff are deployed effectively to ensure children's safety, welfare and development is promoted. Ratios are correctly maintained at all times and suitable contingency arrangements are in place to cover any staff absence. Clear policies and procedures are in place, are consistently applied and underpin the care of the children.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 complaint 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):

- review snack times to allow children to learn good health and hygiene practices and develop their independence
- ensure outside area is made safe for children
- ensure the manager has obtained a level 3 qualification.

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