

Kirkdale Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY346704

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Inspector Karen Cockings

Setting Address Wooldale Junior School, Royds Avenue, New Mill, HOLMFIRTH, HD9 1LJ

Telephone number 07812 018076

E-mail info@heydaysnursery.co.uk

Registered person ACM Projects 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?

Kirkdale Out of School Club was registered in December 2006. The club operates currently from Wooldale Junior School in Wooldale, near Holmfirth. New, purpose-built premises in the school grounds will be opening shortly. Children attend from Wooldale, Kirk Royds and Hepworth schools. A maximum of 26 children may attend the club at any one time and there are currently 36 children on roll. The club is open each weekday before and after school in term time and all day in the school holidays. The club has access to the school grounds for outdoor play.

The setting is privately owned by a limited company. A team of four staff work directly with the children, all of whom have a relevant qualification or are working towards it.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have regular opportunities to play outdoors, which helps them to keep fit and well. The club uses the school's playgrounds and playing fields where children enjoy games of football and rounders. There are suitable resources available to support active play, such as hoops, bats

and scooters. In wet weather, staff organise games in the school hall, promoting a positive approach to exercise.

Children sit sociably together at snack time. Brightly coloured cloths and crockery help to create a comfortable environment and children enjoy a well balanced menu, which includes hot and cold foods and fresh fruit. For example, they have soup and crusty bread, with grapes for dessert. Staff find out about any allergies or special dietary requirements and ensure that these are respected. Children's independence is not fully promoted as staff tend to serve foods and drinks for them. However, children are involved in simple food preparation activities, such as making chocolate crispy buns.

Staff follow appropriate hygiene procedures in order to protect children from the spread of infection. They take care to ensure that snack tables and crockery are clean and they encourage children with hand washing routines. Some children remind others about this when they come in with dirty hands after a game of football. The club's policy with regard to the care of sick children is shared with parents and there is information available about notifiable illnesses. Staff have first aid training and a first aid kit is readily available. There are systems in place for recording any accidents and medication administered. However, record sheets do not include all significant information, such as details of the treatment given and the time accidents occurred, which compromises children's safety and welfare.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's safety is given priority at the setting, where daily checks and careful risk assessments are conducted in order to minimise potential hazards. Staff create a comfortable environment for children, working hard to overcome the constraints of shared premises and to make it a welcoming area where children can feel relaxed. Staff set out a selection of toys and games for each session as they are not able to provide easily accessible storage at present. This means that children do not have independent access to the full range of toys and play materials, although there are plans to address this in the new premises.

Children's awareness of safety issues is raised through discussion and as part of daily activities. For example, staff remind them to take care with hot utensils, when baking, and children know where they can safely play outdoors. An intercom system enables staff to communicate with each other if there are children both indoors and outside. Emergency evacuation procedures have been developed but these are not on display and have not yet been practised with the children to ensure that they are fully aware of the procedures to be followed.

Staff understand their responsibilities with regard to child protection and current guidance is readily available to them should they have any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive happily at the club and quickly settle down to an activity of their choice. Staff set out a variety of resources to suit most interests, including construction toys, computer and creative projects. Children also like to organise ball games outside if the weather permits. There is always at least one planned activity at each session. For example, children are able to use their design skills to make jewellery and masks or they participate in a baking activity. They have set up their own assault course and enjoyed a fruit tasting session. Staff are guided by

children's current interests and take care to review and evaluate the programme to identify what has worked well and how activities could be adapted to provide more appeal.

Interaction between staff and children is warm and positive. There are friendly conversations about favourite foods and about a recent talent competition they have seen on television. Staff recognise that children need opportunity to relax after a busy day in school. If they wish, children can unwind by watching a favourite video or they can participate more actively in a group game or in a more solitary activity, such as painting or model making. They are involved in some of the planning and preparation for their new club premises and have been making logos and labels for their coat pegs and painting pictures to display on the walls. This is helping to create a sense of ownership and belonging.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff recognise the importance of working in partnership with parents in order to meet children's needs. They ensure that agreements are clearly recorded and seek information about children on registration sheets. There is an information pack for new parents and the club's policies and procedures are readily available to them. This includes the procedures for dealing with any complaints or concerns about the service, although some information has not been fully updated.

Children's behaviour is managed calmly and positively. Staff comment warmly on children's achievements and let them know when they have done well. For example, they tell children what a good job they have done when helping to tidy up. This builds children's confidence and shows them that they are valued. Through shared games and activities children are encouraged to play cooperatively together.

Resources, such as books and posters about different faiths and cultures, are on display and raise children's awareness of diversity. Staff also make use of opportunities, such as the sharing of holiday photographs, to stimulate discussion about different countries and lifestyles. The stock of toys and play materials is steadily being developed to ensure that there is variety for children and that resources reflect positive images. Staff are keen to provide an inclusive setting and know where to seek appropriate advice to help them to meet children's individual needs.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for in a well organised environment where staff make good use of the available space and resources. They have clear plans for the further development of the provision when they are able to move into their new premises. Well documented recruitment and induction procedures ensure that the required checking of new staff is completed and that staff understand their roles and responsibilities. All staff are encouraged to attend at least the foundation training relevant to the age group cared for and to work towards higher levels of qualification. This means that they have the appropriate skills and knowledge to meet children's needs.

The operational plan for the setting is well organised and has been carefully linked to the National Standards to ensure that all required areas are covered. Most record keeping systems are maintained appropriately in order to safeguard children's welfare.

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 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):

- consider ways of further promoting children's independence and choice at meal times
- display emergency evacuation procedures and practise them with children
- review and update the information available for parents about how they may raise any concerns about the service.

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