

# Singleton Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	309631
<b>Inspection date</b>	25 January 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Lesley Sharples
<b>Setting Address</b>	Singleton C of E School, Church Road, Singleton, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, FY6 8LN
<b>Telephone number</b>	01253 882 226
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Singleton Kids Club
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Singleton Kids Club has been operating since 1996. It is situated within Singleton C of E School in the rural village of Singleton. The registered provider is the committee. Facilities for children comprise of the school hall, two classrooms and a library. There is also an enclosed outside area, a playground, a woodland area, a quiet garden and a large playing field available for children to access for physical play.

The facility is registered to care for 24 children between the ages of four and eight years. There is currently a total of 50 children on roll, of whom 25 are under the age of eight years. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

The facility operates a breakfast and after school club five days a week Monday to Friday between 07.45 and 09.00, and between 15.00 and 17.30 term time only. A play scheme also runs for one week in the summer holidays.

The committee employs five members of staff. The supervisor holds National Vocational Qualification level 3 in Playwork. The out of school club is a member of 4Children, which is the national organisation for out of school provisions. Advice, support and training is gained from the local authority.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are learning effectively about being healthy through the daily routine and snacks offered. They understand the importance of regular hand washing during significant times of the day and have easy access to facilities. This helps to prevent the spread of infection. Children's health is protected by the way systems and documentation are in place regarding accident recording. Accurate records are held and parents sign entries as required. Children's health is protected because a member of staff is present at each session who has current training in first aid. This means that they can offer advice and support in case of accidents or illness.

Children's opportunities for physical play and fresh air are regularly undertaken in most weathers. They have access to wide ranging opportunities for varied and fun play experiences offered in different areas of the school. These include the multi-use area, quiet garden and woodland. They also use equipment and resources for games and vigorous play. Children enjoy this energetic play, are exuberant and lively, and fully benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise.

Children have their individual health and dietary needs met because information is used from parents effectively. A range of healthy and nutritious snacks is provided and the manager has worked hard to introduce different kinds of snacks, in line with the school's healthy eating policy. Children enjoy fruit and fruit juices, alongside various savoury snacks. Children understand the importance of healthy eating and good nutrition as they are involved in making suggestions for their snacks, such as having rice cakes. This promotes children's good health and aids the development of both physical and mental growth.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The setting is warm and welcoming to children. The out of school has a strong identity within the school, with children's artwork and themed displays contributing to brightening their main play environment in the school hall. Space is utilised well so that different opportunities are catered for and this offers choice and variety for children. An activity table attracts children on arrival and children can access other resources for floor play and role play. Choice and variety of resources capture children's interest. They are beginning to be influential in what resources are obtained because staff listen and observe what children like to do. For example, more board games have been purchased, as these are particularly enjoyed.

Risk assessments are completed in order to minimise accidents to children. Premises are kept secure, visitors sign in and everyone is accounted for on the premises at all times. The collection of children is fully monitored by only allowing children to leave with those persons known to staff. Children learn how to keep themselves safe through practising the emergency evacuation procedures. The supervisor ensures all children have this opportunity as the practises occur on different days throughout the week. Children are fully supervised when crossing the road to reach one of their outdoor play areas. Children are also reminded about storing their bags under tables so that their environment is kept safe and hazard free.

Children's safety and welfare is further assured as staff understand the procedures for recording and reporting any concerns relating to child protection. The designated person has undertaken training in 2005 and demonstrates full knowledge and awareness of a range of types of abuse

and neglect. The government guidance 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused' is available for reference. The child protection statement does not include relevant telephone numbers, procedures to follow if an allegation is made against a member of staff, or up-to-date information regarding Local Safeguarding Children Boards. The supervisor is currently updating this and other policies and procedures.

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

The provision is good.

Children benefit from satisfactory informal planning and the provision of activities and play opportunities to support and develop their emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities. Children's ideas are listened to and incorporated into future activities. For example, children excitedly make birdseed cakes, an idea offered recently. The supervisor is careful to ask children not to eat the out-of-date muesli, explaining it came from a friend's shop. When a child asked if it was safe for birds to eat, they were assured it was.

Children are looked after by staff who are approachable and friendly. They initiate their own play ideas as well as enjoying focused activities with a member of staff, which are prepared and ready for them on arrival. They also freely engaged in self-initiated play, being particularly fond of food role play items. Displays evidence crafts, such as weaving, and artwork in the Chinese New Year frieze. Follow up activities include artwork such as images of rats, it being the year of the rat, and free drawing. Children have plentiful supplies of art and craft resources to help themselves from. They concentrate and produce lovely work which they are proud of. Children are given opportunities to do their homework should they wish to.

Many impressive activities planned for the summer play scheme included visitors who gave children many experiences in handling birds, riding donkeys and seeing police transport over the years. They also engaged in physical games with a circus school and had a puppet theatre. Written feedback from children highlights what they enjoy the most. This fully supports children's enjoyment and ability to take an active part in their out of school club.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are treated with equal concern and attention so that individual needs are met. They gain a positive view and understanding of diversity as staff provide a small selection of meaningful activities and resources. They have access to reference books and stories, and undertake themed activities, such as different celebrations, which expand their knowledge and understanding of others. Children also do activities such as, 'Why am I special?' as a means of getting to know themselves and identifying what they are good at.

Children have plenty of interest in the activities and experiences provided which means they engage well in their play and are never bored. This is because experiences are well matched to children's needs to provide a suitable level of challenge and enjoyment. Positive interactions from staff promote children's self-esteem. Children receive ongoing praise and encouragement during their play and good manners are encouraged. As a result, children learn right from wrong and behave very well. The out of school policy includes strategies for managing unwanted behaviour and bullying, but no reference to incident recording if physical restraint is used.

Children benefit from continuity of care between home and the out of school provision because staff work in partnership with parents to identify and meet the needs of their children. Parents

are kept informed about their children because staff communicate regularly with parents at collection time and in the form of newsletters. Conversations are focused upon the children's needs, preferences and experiences. Parents speak positively about the provision, stating their children do not want to leave when being collected.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is inadequate.

Children are looked after by staff who demonstrate regard for their well-being. Recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. This ensures children are well protected and cared for by staff who are suitable and have the knowledge and understanding to promote children's development in all areas. Staff show enjoyment of their work, which fosters children's confidence and self-worth. The staff team of two meets the adult-child ratios and qualifications because the supervisor has a level 3 Playwork certificate. Children benefit from the professional development of the supervisor, such as attending Early Years Foundation Stage training.

The required documentation does not meet mandatory requirements. Although attendances are accurately recorded and meet regulatory requirements, policies and procedures do not reflect current guidance. The manager fully acknowledges this and has sought advice from the local authority. She is currently working through them all to bring them in line with regulatory requirements. Children's information is also being updated and renewed to fulfil requirements, including consents, but children are not deemed to be at risk because information is held within the school and accessible at all times. Documentation is stored to ensure confidentiality.

A further requirement to inform Ofsted of any significant changes or events was not complied with when the play scheme took place in another venue for one week of the school holidays.

Overall, the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, it was agreed to develop an action plan to set out how staff training and qualification requirements are met; record staff arrival and departure times; ensure children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice; and to formulate a procedure of what to do if an allegation was made against a member of staff.

All recommendations have been implemented with the exception of the procedure relating to an allegation made against a member of staff, and an action has now been made. Staff hours of attendance are recorded on file and improvements have been made to ensure children are able to engage in activities and play with some resources to widen their experiences during out of school provision. There is a manager now in post who is appropriately qualified and this impacts well on what children are doing in the out of school provision.

## **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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure all policies and procedures reflect mandatory requirements and current guidance
- inform Ofsted of any significant changes or events in the future

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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)