

Beamont Wasps Link Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	315285
Inspection date	19 April 2007
Inspector	Julie Firth
Setting Address	Beamont Primary School, O'Leary Street, Orford, Warrington, WA2 7RQ
Telephone number	01925 415 171
E-mail	wasps@btconnect.com
Registered person	Sandra Ogden
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?

Croft Wasps Link Club was registered in 2001. It operates from a self contained dining hall within the grounds of Beamont County Primary School, Orford, Warrington. The club serves children from the primary school and schools in the local area. The club is registered for 48 children aged from four to eight years and there are currently 56 children on roll. The club supports children with learning difficulties or disabilities.

The group is open five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 15.00 to 18.00. Holiday care is offered at the organisation's link club at Bruche.

There are 5 staff who work with the children, of whom all hold an early years qualification. Additional staff are available from the staff pool. The Wasps Link Club organisation provides administrative and clerical support. The organisation receives support from Warrington Sure Start.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are well protected from illness and infection because the staff conscientiously follow current and appropriate environmental health and hygiene guidelines. There are good routines in place for the cleaning of the premises. Staff wipe the tables down after snack time enabling children to continue with their activities. Children clearly understand simple good health and hygiene practices and they all line up to wash their hands before handling food and after using the bathroom. Staff are suitably qualified in first aid to enable them to appropriately treat children with minor injuries. They obtain consent from parents for emergency advice and treatment.

Daily outdoor play helps children to develop their physical skills and promote a healthy lifestyle. They make good use of the school playground and enjoy football, bats and balls and skipping ropes. Children understand the importance of having regular drinks to stay hydrated, as they help themselves to the jugs of water available at each session. They enjoy nutritious snacks and are given a variety of hot food every evening chosen from the written menu. Snack time enhances their social skills and children become involved in giving out food and drinks to each other. Their dietary requirements are met well as staff work with parents in finding out their child's requirements and respectfully follow these.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming and stimulating environment. They can move from one activity to another and the hall is adapted for sole use when the club is operating. Staff split the hall into separate play areas to enable the children to participate in messy, quiet and role play.

Children confidently choose from an accessible, wide range of toys and equipment that are age appropriate. They develop independence as they choose from equipment which is easily accessed on low tables, or at floor level around the room. Children confidently ask for toys that are not out. The resources are clean, safe and well maintained to ensure the children's safety. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the health and safety policies and how to keep children safe. The children move around in a safe environment where risks are identified, minimised and reviewed at staff meetings. Staff ensure that daily risk assessments are recorded daily. Children are aware of keeping themselves safe and not to enter the new kitchen area. Photographic evidence indicates the police and the fire service visiting the provision to talk about how to keep safe. Children have opportunities to regularly practise fire drills, reminding them what to do in the event of a fire or an emergency evacuation. There are stringent procedures for signing children in and out of the club ensuring they are accounted for at all times. Children are only collected by the named person or person whom the staff are familiar with. Staff follow a good safety procedure when collecting children from different schools on the bus. They ensure that children are aware of the pick up points and how to behave on the bus.

Children's welfare is protected because staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. A detailed child protection policy is in place and staff update their training regularly.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children talk positively about their experiences in the club and have fun mixing with children from different schools. There are good relationships throughout the setting producing a harmonious and happy environment. This increases the children's sense of trust and friendships. They are familiar with their routines when they enter the club and they sit together in the large circle and speak to each other in the large group about their news. Older children take delight in looking after younger children, helping them to settle and become confident. Staff support children and skilfully adapt activities and introduce new ideas. They encourage children to read for pleasure and choose from a good range of books in the quiet area. Activities in the club follow a weekly programme with regular new themes introduced. Children enjoy activities, such as Italian food tasting day, show and tell, which involves them bringing in items from home, play dough, dressing up, Easter nests, bingo, quiz night and face painting, They work with paints, different textures and collage materials when making Easter bunnies and Mother's day gifts. Children sit playing board games, such as monopoly, helping them achieve better levels of concentration and enhance their language and listening skills.

Planning is in place in the club which involves the children's contributions. There is a balance of adult and child led play. However, planning of stimulating activities for older children attending the after school is not fully developed.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

All staff appreciate the uniqueness of each child and work well together to make sure that their needs are exceptionally well met, ensuring that they are fully included in the life of the setting. Cultural diversity is extremely well promoted within the out of school club. Children celebrate a wide range of cultural festivals, they are engrossed in the preparation of activities from different countries, taste a range of foods, and access a good selection of resources that reflect equality. The setting demonstrates the highest regard towards the care of children with disabilities and learning difficulties, recognising the importance of caring for them in a sharing and inclusive environment and working closely with parents and outside agencies to ensure their needs are totally met. A member of staff has been employed by the club to cascade her expert knowledge of what it is like for a child with a hearing impairment. This gives the children a superb understanding and awareness of this disability. Information and posters of disability are displayed giving children a good awareness of diversity. Children work harmoniously with each other as they learn to share and take turns as they play. They are developing a wonderful caring attitude towards others and they listen and show a have a high level of respect for each other at news time.

Children are delightful and extremely well behaved .They respond well to the positive behaviour management strategies and by staff who remain calm and consistent at all times. Minor altercations are dealt with in a sensitive manner. Children are polite and contribute to the ground rules to enable them to play and have fun. Children's contributions are valued and they praise their efforts and talents and make space around the club to display their work until they can take them home.

Parents receive high quality and detailed levels of information about the club through displays, newsletters and notice boards. They are kept fully informed of their children's activities as they are invited into the club at all times. They comment on their children involving them in the

recent theme of 'Italy'. The high quality of the partnership is further reinforced as parents and children are given questionnaires and a comments box to evaluate the scheme. Discussions with parents indicate that they have the highest regard for the service and care provided. Parents comment on the 'great dedication of the approachable staff'.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Effective recruitment and vetting procedures ensure children are protected and cared for by staff. The management are committed to improving the quality of care they provide for children and encourage the staff to attend further training. The operational manager who oversees various sites of the Wasps Link Clubs, meets regularly with staff to ensure they are all aware of recent developments and address any concerns they may have. A good induction and appraisal system is in place. The leaders of the group are qualified, experienced and know the children well. Children are appropriately supervised both indoors and outdoors and staff work well as a team as they access and respond to the children's interests. Children are happy and enjoy choosing activities from the options available. Children follow a structured routine and there is a good operational plan in place demonstrating that staff regard the well-being of all children. Staff organise the school hall quickly and effectively at the end of the school day enabling children to have access to toys and equipment on arrival to the club from their classrooms. Close links are developed with the school headteacher and local schools to ensure a smooth transition to the out of school provision

A comprehensive booklet of policies and procedures are in place, which contributes to the safety of children being cared for. These are shared with parents to keep them informed about their service and their child's activities. All documentation is in place and correctly maintained.

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 group were asked to ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

All children have equal access to a wide variety of resources and activities. Staff and children contribute to the planning of activities and themes enabling them to have a clear knowledge and awareness of diversity.

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 by 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):

- further develop activities to stimulate the older children.

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