

Feltham Hill Grasshoppers After School Care Scheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	116244
Inspection date	26 April 2007
Inspector	Jennifer Devine
Setting Address	Ashford Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW13 4QP
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Registered person	Feltham Hill Grasshoppers After School Care Scheme
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?

Feltham Hill Grasshoppers After School Care scheme is run by a parents committee. It opened in 1997 and operates from the dining hall at Feltham Hill Junior School, in the London borough of Hounslow. A maximum of 32 children from five to eight years may attend the club at any one time. The club is also open to children from eight to 11 years. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The club is open each weekday from 15:15 to 18:00, during school term times. It caters for children who attend Feltham Hill Infant or Junior school.

There are currently 50 children aged from five to 11 years on roll.

The club employs a total of seven staff, of whom five hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted as the setting is maintained to a good standard of cleanliness. Children have an understanding about self care skills and maintaining their own health as they

wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. There are written policies in place detailing procedures for managing sick children, accidents and medication. A number of staff hold valid first aid certificates which enables them to confidently deal with any emergencies that may arise.

Children are well nourished with a freshly prepared snack at every session. Food is prepared on site, by staff who hold appropriate food hygiene certificates. Children are able to sit comfortably with their friends to eat tea, as a result children enjoy their meal and it is a sociable time. Children sometimes help to prepare the snack such as when making fruit kebabs and are provided with a variety of nutritious snacks such as sandwiches and salads. Children's individual dietary needs are well known and respected by staff.

Children enjoy outdoor activities which supports and helps their physical skills as well as contributing to a healthy lifestyle. They benefit for good access to the school playing fields and children enjoy a variety of games such as football or walking on stilts. The group spend most of the session outdoors in good weather where they enjoy picnics on the grass.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment, where they are well supervised by staff. Younger children are collected from the Infant school by the staff and walked over to the club. All children's attendance is recorded in the attendance register and parents are vigilant to sign their children out in the evening.

Children enjoy ample space, both indoors and outside for a variety of activities. They confidently select play equipment from the range available and can ask staff if they wish to play with other activities not set out. Space is used effectively to allow children to play at tables, use equipment on the floor or relax on cushions in the book area if they wish too.

Staff carry out daily risk assessments to minimise possible dangers and keep children safe. Security of the premises is satisfactory. There is no security system in place on the front entrance but staff can easily see any visitors arriving from the car park and would greet them at the front door. Fire evacuation procedures are carried out regularly to ensure children clearly know what to do in the event of a fire.

Children's wellbeing is protected because staff have a good knowledge of child protection issues and know what to do if they are concerned about a child. However, the child protection procedures are outdated and do not include information on the new Local Safeguarding Children's Board.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, settled and confident in the company of the staff. They enjoy the time spent in the club where they can relax or be active according to their needs and interests. They are motivated, eager and participate in the many activities offered to them. Staff laugh and have fun with the children as well as giving support and encouragement when needed. Consequently, the children are confident to approach them and express their needs. Children thoroughly enjoy dressing up in the various outfits and develop their imaginative thinking when taking on different roles together. Children are able to make choices and decisions together

on which games to play and enjoy group games of snakes and ladders. Children take it in turns to use the computer or Playstation and understand the group rules around sharing this equipment. They are confident in setting up and playing suitable games, enjoying quiz games such as 'Buzz'. There are regular opportunities for children to participate in art and craft activities such as painting, sticking and making things. Children's artwork is attractively displayed around the setting. There is provision for children to complete their homework if they wish to do so.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children interact very well together and enjoy each others company. Children's individual needs are met well as staff liaise with parents to ensure they are aware of children's interests and therefore provide appropriate activities and resources. Appropriate and positive strategies are used to manage any behavioural difficulties that may arise. Consequently, a calm and relaxed atmosphere is created.

Although there are currently no children attending with learning difficulties and/or disabilities the staff have a positive attitude towards this area of childcare.

Children learn about the world they live in when acknowledging various festivals such as Easter or Hanukah. They have access to a range of suitable resources such as when dressing up in Indian saris that enable them to develop a positive view of diversity within society.

Parents and carers are warmly greeted by staff and have the opportunity to share any relevant information to ensure their child's needs are fully met. Information about each child is gained through parents completing a registration form with all the appropriate details. A complaints procedure is available for parents but the information regarding the regulator, Ofsted is not recorded.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care is managed by a team of experienced staff who work very well together. Most staff hold relevant child care qualifications and robust recruitment procedures are in place. Suitable arrangements are in place to prevent any unvetted staff not having unsupervised contact with children. Staff update their knowledge and skills by accessing short courses regularly. Children benefit from a well organised setting. They feel comfortable and at ease within the club. The session is organised to offer a balance of quiet or more active play to meet each child's immediate needs. Children talk positively about how they enjoy coming to the club. Clear and comprehensive written information is available to staff and the required documentation is in place. This ensures children's welfare, safety and care.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection the group have made improvements in the care the children receive. The child protection policy contains information on the Area Child Protection Committee and

this ensures staff are fully aware of protecting children. Appropriate public liability insurance is now displayed and this ensures parents are kept well informed about the club's responsibilities.

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 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):

- ensure the complaints procedure is updated with the regulator, Ofsted's correct details
- update the child protection procedures to include Local Safeguarding Children's Board information.

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