

# COOL KIDS CLUB

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique Reference Number** 134330

**Inspection date** 18 September 2007

**Inspector** Jan Leo

**Setting Address** THE CLUB HOUSE, WHEATLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL, LITTLEWORTH ROAD, WHEATLEY, OXFORD, Oxfordshire, OX33 1NN

**Telephone number** 01865 876395

**E-mail**

**Registered person** The Cool Kids Club

**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](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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Cool Kids Club has been registered since 1990. It is a committee run group operated by parents. The provision offers a breakfast club, lunch club, after school club, and holiday playscheme for school age children living in Wheatley and the surrounding areas. It is based in its own building in the grounds of Wheatley Primary School.

The club is open during term time from 07.30 until 08.30, 11.45 until 13.00, and 15.00 until 17.30. The playscheme operates during most school holidays from 08.30 until 17.30. The group is registered to look after a maximum of 40 children in total at each session. There are currently 61 children on the register, including children over the age of eight years. The number attending all aspects of the group varies constantly.

The club building include a large activity room, a small room for quiet time, a kitchen and toilet facilities. Children also use the large outdoor playground areas of the school which house a tennis court, children's playground area, swimming pool and football fields.

The club is run by five permanent members of staff, three of whom have early years qualifications to level 3. They are supported by three additional occasional helpers.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn basic good practice regarding hygiene by wearing aprons and washing hands frequently when undertaking cooking activities. They have appropriate facilities to clean their hands, but staff do not routinely remind children to do so when they arrive after school, to remove the dirt and germs from the day. As a result, children eat their snack with unclean hands. The staff vary the snacks across the week in an attempt to get children to try new foods, but they do not select foods carefully to ensure snacks are always nutritious and well balanced. Children attending the breakfast club receive a more substantial snack to boost their energy levels and start the day well. Those attending the lunch club bring their own packed lunches from home. All have free access to drinks and help themselves whenever they are thirsty. At times, the children sit to eat sociably and learn good etiquette, however, those attending the out of school aspect tend to walk round while they eat, limiting opportunities to learn good table manners. Some staff have food hygiene and first aid certificates to equip them with a sound knowledge of good practice. Checks on the first aid supplies are not always thorough when removing out dated dressings, compromising hygiene. The staff have effective procedures for keeping medicine out of reach and they record accidents clearly in order to share accurate information with parents and carers.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children receive close supervision to protect them from hazards around the site. The primary school makes use of adjacent areas at times resulting in staff paying close attention to school personnel, students and visitors in an effort to preserve children's safety. Children spend some of their time in a purpose build building with each area set out appropriately for activities to be easily supervised. All make full use of the vast outdoor areas to spread out and avoid collisions while skateboarding or running around, and receive reminders about how to protect themselves from harm. The staff keep detailed registers and ask all visitors to sign in, to make sure they have an accurate record of who is present, and they carry out fire practises, albeit on a slightly ad hoc basis, to make sure everyone is aware of the evacuation process. Children benefit from risk assessments and daily safety checks to keep the environment safe, and all staff undertake part of the suitability checking process as a matter of routine when taking up their post. For example, all have criminal records bureau clearances but none has completed a suitable person interview with Ofsted, as required. All staff have a fair understanding of their responsibility to safeguard children from harm and know how to contact the local authority if they have concerns about a child. Some lack the confidence to put the procedure into practice.

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

The provision is good.

The children thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting and value the opportunity it gives them to play with classmates and make new friends from other age groups. The staff provide space and resources for a variety of activities and they ask children what they would like to do. Some choose to play pool with one or two friends while others chat in small groups while listening to music, or spend some quiet time alone playing with dinosaurs in the water tray. All keep themselves well occupied and show interest in what others are doing. Some confidently join

other children's games knowing they will be welcome. For example, an older child said 'bagsie I play the winner' before joining in a civilised conversation about the skills of each of the younger pool players, and a small group of young girls joined an older child at the craft table to make shakers with beads inside containers. The staff roam about to assist where they are needed, joining in conversations as they do so in order to demonstrate their interest in the children. They introduce popular treats, such as the tuck shop, to develop children's involvement, getting them to manage what they spend and keep a running total of their own account. As a result, the children are becoming very independent while learning about value and developing their numeracy skills.

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

The provision is good.

All children receive a cheerful greeting from staff and feel welcome. They rapidly become involved in small group activities to ensure they mix easily and make new friends. They show awareness and concern for their peers, get on very well together, regardless of age differences, and behaviour is extremely good. The setting has facilities to accept children with disabilities and all are welcome. The staff work closely with the children to help them 'be their own person' and this gives children the confidence to ask for help to sort out their specific difficulties. The children enjoy the award ceremony conducted to recognise special achievements such as helpfulness or kindness. All listen eagerly to see who receives the trophy and clap or cheer to add value to the achievement. Parents and carers have a high regard for the provision and find staff easy to talk to at any time. They have free access to essential information such as the certificate of registration and insurance documents, as well as policies, menus, and the activity plans to inform them about daily details. The staff and committee review policies from time to time to ensure the information remains reasonably up to date and reflects how the setting operates.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. The children spend their time in their own designated building with free access to a wide range of resources and ample space to play. They choose what to do, having time to relax, socialise and make new friends. Most aspects of health and safety are satisfactory but staff do not promote hand washing and healthy eating effectively for children to fully understand about healthy living. The setting has found it difficult to find a new chairperson and, as a result, the standard of support for staff has been variable. The new management is now working more closely with staff to review policy and practice documents, to ensure all information is up to date and accurate. There are currently no formal procedures for monitoring practice or updating documentation on a regular basis. All of the paperwork, required by regulation is in place and of the required standard, but changes to senior staff and committee are not routinely notified to Ofsted in order for full suitability checks to be completed. This is a breach of regulation regarding the requirement to notify significant changes or events, and as such compromises children's safety to a small extent.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

There were three recommendations made at the last inspection to help improve the standard of care for children. They required the staff to make sure children's records are kept complete

and up to date, obtain full information about children's culture and beliefs, and update the child protection policy to include more detail.

The staff have introduced new essential information forms for adults to complete when children start at the provision. These are updated annually as a matter of routine in addition to being amended throughout the year as family circumstances change. The records now routinely require details of children's nationality, main language, religious and cultural observances to ensure staff are fully able to tailor care to suit individual needs.

All of the policies are in the process of being reviewed and the review of the child protection/safeguarding children policy is not yet complete. The staff and committee are working together to improve documentation overall in order to create a more efficient service and ensure paperwork accurately reflects how the setting operates.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection 2004 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):

- improve children's good health by encouraging hand washing to prevent the spread of infection and consistently promoting healthy eating
- devise workable strategies for routinely monitoring and updating policies and procedures on a regular basis
- routinely notify Ofsted of all significant changes and events, with particular regard to changes in senior staff and committee members

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)