

# Schools Out Stay 'n' Play

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY293648
<b>Inspection date</b>	23 May 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Cathleen Howarth
<b>Setting Address</b>	Crompton Primary School, Longfield Road, Shaw, Oldham, OL2 7HD
<b>Telephone number</b>	01706 882249 07939 178814
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Joyce Turner
<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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Schools Out Stay 'n' Play is one of four private out of school clubs in Oldham run by the same provider. This club registered in 2004 and operates from a portacabin in the grounds of Crompton Primary School, Shaw. A maximum of 20 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open weekdays during term time from 07.30 to 09.00 and from 15.00 to 17.30. The holiday club is open weekdays from 07.30 to 17.30. All children share access to enclosed outdoor play areas.

There are currently 42 children on roll. Of these, 18 are aged between eight and 11 years. During term time all children attend from Crompton Primary School. The holiday club welcomes children from the wider community. Currently there are a number of children on roll with learning difficulties and disabilities.

The proprietor employs four members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications.

The club is a member of the Oldham Out Of School Care Association.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children are well protected from infection and taken care of if they have an accident or become ill. Records are systematically countersigned by parents to promote children's continuing care. Children stay healthy because staff maintain high standards of hygiene and cleanliness in areas used by children.

Children are offered nutritious light snacks. For example, scotch pancakes with seasonal fruit and salad. Children self-select water to effectively promote their independence. Healthy lifestyles are positively encouraged when staff talk to children about what is good for them, like eating healthily, taking regular exercise and having a good night's sleep. The club does not provide transport so children are used to walking and using public transport, particularly during the school holidays. Children are enthusiastic about physical play and enjoy taking part in team games. There is a good range of outside play equipment used to support children's overall physical development.

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

The provision is good.

Children clearly understand boundaries and limits. They know not to leave the portacabin unsupervised, and they know not to run inside in order to avoid accidental injury. The environment is thoroughly risk assessed before children arrive, so they have ample choice in where they play safely.

Children play with quality resources and equipment that are of good design and condition. Staff systematically check items for repair and replacement.

Children practise emergency evacuation procedures, to effectively encourage them to take responsibility for themselves. All fire safety precautions are in place. There are no blocked exits, adequate smoke detection and a fire blanket is available to use in the meal preparation area. The current public liability insurance certificate is available for parents to view.

Children are professionally safeguarded. Staff fully understand their role in child protection. They know the procedures to follow should a concern arise.

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

The provision is good.

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting. They enter confidently and quickly settle in their self-chosen activity. They make very good use of the broad range of planned activities and spontaneous events, which promote their overall social and recreational requirements.

Children have developed a real sense of belonging. Staff greet children warmly, and attractively set out toys and equipment to welcome them to the setting. There is continuous provision and clearly defined areas to support different activities. At circle time children sit with staff to discuss their day and to plan activities. Staff continually strive to improve the provision and they have high expectations of what children can achieve. They encourage children to evaluate activities so that they can be adapted or changed as required. As a result children find their

resources fun and interesting, which helps them to focus and persist for some time. Well thought through activities, like designing and making crowns, are easily adapted for all children.

Children have great fun dressing up in different costumes pretending to be an astronaut and jester. They imaginatively use props to turn the home area into a bank, café and shop. These stimulating activities have effectively helped children develop their self-esteem.

Children show great interest and determination in what they do. For example, when children played the monkey board game they were learning to negotiate, balance, share and take turns. When children compete like this they are also learning to succeed with pride, without showing off, and to lose with dignity for trying.

Children relate well to their carers and spontaneously go to them for hugs. There is a trusting, relaxed, friendly atmosphere at the club.

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

The provision is good.

Children are treated with equal concern, they are fully included and involved. Children behave well and show respect for each other and their carers. Staff consistently acknowledge and praise cooperative and courteous behaviour. There is a good balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities to encourage children to make choices to promote their confidence.

There are robust systems in place to keep parents informed about the setting and their children's general welfare. However, some aspects of care for children with additional needs have been overlooked, as limited information has been obtained from parents.

Should the need arise, parents know to raise concerns with their child's key person, and if required through the complaints procedure. Parents commend staff for providing good quality care and excellent play opportunities.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

A distinctive feature is effective team working, and the club's strong relationship with parents and school. This is evident in the positive outcomes for children.

Staff have attended various training courses to keep up to date with play work practice. They are competently supported in their work through established procedures, such as induction and staff appraisal.

All the required documentation is in place to promote children's care, welfare and play. Children's records are stored securely and maintained in an orderly way. Staff respect confidentiality and share relevant information with parents.

Children anticipate established routines and they feel secure in a stable, predictable environment. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

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

At the last inspection two recommendations were raised to improve staff qualifications and the range of toys and activities in relation to diversity. The provider now employs staff with

appropriate early years qualifications. This is done to comply with registration requirements. The provider has obtained a wide range of resources which are used in children's play to promote positive images of diversity, such as gender, ethnicity, culture and disability. This has been done to enhance children's understanding of human differences in the wider community.

### **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):

- obtain information from parents to provide fully for the individual needs of children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

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)