

# Playwise

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY277067
<b>Inspection date</b>	12 October 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Freeda Wildon
<b>Setting Address</b>	Artwise Youth and Community Centre, St Luke's Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 7HS
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<b>Registered person</b>	Martine Janet Newton
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day 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?

Playwise Out-of-school Club is a privately run setting. It opened in 2003 and operates from rooms in the Artwise youth and community centre in Ramsgate, Kent. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The club opens Monday to Friday from 15:00 to 18:00 during term-time and from 08:30 to 18:00 during the holidays. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Children who attend the after school club are collected from local schools.

There are currently 54 children aged from four to under seven years on roll. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The setting employs three staff, all hold appropriate early years qualifications. The club receives support from the Local Authority.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The premises are cleaned to a satisfactory standard. Children learn about good hygiene practices through the daily routine, staff give gentle reminders to wash hands before eating. Staff clean the tables before they are used for eating. There is a sick child policy, it is made clear to parents the exclusion period for infectious illnesses protecting other children's health. Children choose from a selection of healthy and nutritious snacks, for example, different fruits, salad items and warm snacks. Children attending the holiday play scheme make pizza. This helps make healthy lifestyle choices. A jug of water is available for children to cool their bodies after physical activities.

Accessible first aid kits, appropriately trained first aid staff, medication and accident records enable staff to act in the best interest of children if they become ill or an accident occurs. However, accidents and medication records are not recorded in line with guidance. Children attending the holiday play scheme have lots of opportunities for physical exercise; they go on regular outings to the beach, quiz trails and swimming. All children have the opportunity for vigorous exercise indoors. They clearly enjoy being active in the gym playing ball games. These activities keep children healthy.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Effective procedures are in place for the safe collection of children from schools to the after school club. In addition procedures for outings ensures that the holiday play scheme children are safe when they are away from the setting. Children wear high visibility jackets to keep them safe when they walk from schools to the setting. The environment is organised so that children can move freely and safely within rooms in the setting. Children are protected because an intercom system ensures that unwanted visitors do not enter the premises. However, visitors are not always recorded. Staff ensure that the premises and equipment are safe for children by doing regular checks.

Fire equipment is accessible and appropriately maintained by the centre. Fire drills are carried out periodically and cross-referenced with the attendance register to ensure all children have the opportunity to practise evacuating the premises in an emergency. Most of the staff have sound knowledge of child protection and are able to safeguard children's welfare but a few staff are less secure in their knowledge. The child protection policy has not been up-dated to reflect current changes.

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

The provision is good.

The environment is prepared before children arrive in accordance with the plans enabling them to play as soon as they arrive. Children know what other toys are available from the cupboard because they are involved in the purchasing of the toys and equipment. Children play happily and generally relate well to one another and the staff. Children are confident, they talk freely to their friends, to staff and to visitors. They are learning to share and take turns because staff praise and encourage the children. Children complement each other as they build and construct. Consequently children are building positive relationships and developing self-esteem.

Children are free to be active or play quietly with their friends. The registered person has bought new equipment so that a quiet corner can be partitioned off for children to play quietly. As yet this is not fully operational for children to relax. Children are able to do their home work if they wish to do so.

The children are having a lovely time with their friends because they have access to a wide range of activities. Plans show that the children attending the holiday play scheme take part in a variety of outings. For example, swimming and outings to the beach where they go crabbing and create sand sculpture. All of the children have access to art and craft, music and physical activities. They are able to be creative making puppets for puppet theatre, making key rings and painting nails. Some children play chess, others enjoy computer games. Children are occupied and say that they enjoy their time at the setting.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled at the setting because staff find out about their likes and dislikes and they are able to make their needs known to staff. Children learn about the local community through outings, visits to the park, zoo and quiz trails where children collect objects and facts about the community. They learn about the wider world by celebrating festivals around the world. As yet children do not have access to resources to help children learn more about disabilities. All are welcome to the setting; with some adjustments the premises can be suitable for disabled access.

Children are generally well behaved because most of the staff manage children's behaviour in a positive way; they use distraction and explanation to help children learn about right and wrong. Children know about the club rules, for example, sharing and taking turns. Some staff are skilful at managing behaviour calmly. However, this is not consistent and at times a few staff use negative language.

Parents said that they are happy with the care provided for their children. They are greeted warmly by staff. Parents are given verbal daily feedback about their child's care and welfare. They have access to the operational plan which includes the policies and the complaints procedures. Although a log is prepared to record complaints staff are not yet familiar with the new complaints procedure and does not reflect the required regulation. As a result, parents are not given up to date information about complaints. Other information about the setting is displayed on the notice board. Permissions are in place from parents for emergency medical treatment or advice, for outings and for school collection.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. The daily routine is organised and includes outings, quiet times, active times and times for children to eat and drink. As a result, children are happy and settled. Children are able to move freely and safely between the rooms in the setting. The registration certificate is displayed to inform visitors and parents and the attendance register confirms that the provider complies with the conditions of registration.

Procedures are in place to ensure that adults working at the setting are suitable and have appropriate qualifications to work with school aged children. Staff are not familiar with some

of the new procedures and policies. Documentation for the safe and effective management of the setting and for the welfare and care of children is maintained. However, the attendance record is not always accurate in recording times of arrival of the children and of the staff. Not all accidents are acknowledged by parents and a few records are recorded in pencil.

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

At the last inspection three recommendations were made that relate to Standard 3; Enjoying and Achieving. The registered person was asked to provide a quiet area; opportunities for children to self-select and take some responsibilities for the running of the club by involving them in the planning of activities and making club rules. The provider has made satisfactory progress and from this inspection a recommendation has been made to continue to develop a comfortable area for children to relax. The outcome for enjoying achieving from this inspection is good.

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

Since the last inspection Ofsted received one complaint relating to standard 3, Enjoying and Achieving; that inappropriate activities were being planned for the children. Ofsted investigated the complaint by asking the provider to complete an internal investigation. The provider completed an internal investigation and has made changes to how activities are planned. Parents/carers are also now informed in advance of planned activities and have the opportunity to discuss activities with the provider. Ofsted has completed its investigation and will be taking no further action. The provider remains qualified for registration.

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):

- develop knowledge and understanding of procedures for administering medication
- continue to develop policies, procedures and staff knowledge and understanding of issues relating to child protection
- continue to develop a comfortable area for children to relax
- ensure that the behaviour management strategies are consistently applied
- develop staff knowledge and understanding of the complaints regulation and up date the complaints procedure to reflect the regulation and share with parents

- ensure that the record of children's and staff attendance is correct and that all accidents are acknowledged by parents.

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)