

Godinton After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY332739
Inspection date	18 July 2007
Inspector	Jenny Kane
Setting Address	Godinton Cp School, Lockholt Close, ASHFORD, Kent, TN23 3JR
Telephone number	01233 713813
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Registered person	Godinton After School Club
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Full day 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?

Godington After School Club has been registered since February 2007. It is managed by a committee. The after school club operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of Godinton Primary School in Ashford. There is access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the group at any one time. It is open Monday to Friday from 13:15 to 17:45 during term and in some holidays from 08:30 to 17:30. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group serves the school and surrounding area. There are currently 34 children on roll aged from four to 11 years. The group supports children with learning difficulties.

The club employs three permanent staff and has a bank of workers for extra cover. The three staff hold childcare qualifications to level 2, and the manager is currently working towards a level 3 qualification. The group are members of 4Children. They receive support from the local authority, Kent Play Clubs and teaching staff at the school.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are healthy when at the club because staff sustain good levels of hygiene. For example, they wear gloves when preparing food, clean areas as they go and share tasks of maintaining a healthy environment. There are first aid resources readily available and staff hold up to date first aid certificates. This ensures they can deal with accidents and emergencies appropriately. Children have independence and privacy when using the toilets and the facilities are good. When they arrive in the club, the children sit down for a drink and snack. This is a social time when they talk to staff and their friends about what they have done at school and the activities they are looking forward to partaking in at the club. They help themselves to drinks and help to make their food. Staff know if any children have a special dietary need and are aware of any particular dislikes and offer alternatives. Children have good opportunities for outdoor play and this contributes to their physical development. If children do not want to join in games, they can sit and chat in shady areas of the playing field and when they go back into the clubroom, they use the book corner to rest and relax.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in clean, welcoming and well-maintained premises. Staff have thought about the layout of the room and consulted with the children about areas. As a result, there is plenty of space to move about and areas for different activities and play. Work is displayed which helps children's sense of belonging and ownership of their space. Children learn about their own safety during fire drills, safety rules and know the boundaries when playing outside. When outside staff know where children are at all times. However, because there are often only two staff on duty children have to decide and negotiate as a group if they all stay in or all go outside. Staff check the outside area before use and supervise children well. However, during cooking and preparation of hot food there are some safety issues. Staff have to physically stand over the cooker to prevent accidents as there is no specific kitchen area provided. Staff safeguard children while they are in the club. Arrangements for arrival in the club are good, staff mark children in on arrival and their parents sign them out when they collect them. Staff have all attended recent child protection training and the club's policy is available and shared with parents. This ensures children's welfare is promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the club. They indicate their preferences and state they particularly enjoy playing outside, cooking and craft activities. They have access to a good range of play materials, which are well maintained and suitable for their age. Children are relaxed and happy and join in the planned activities readily. They move about choosing what they do, who they play with and maintaining friendships with their peers. Children have a good rapport with staff who treat them with respect. They have a relaxed relationship with staff and their peers, often having a laugh and a joke. Children take responsibility for getting out equipment to take outdoors and clearing away when finished. They enjoy their outside play greatly and make good use of the playing field. Children play football, baseball, skipping and rounders, joining in and cooperating. Older children often help the younger and less able to take part in the

games. They enjoy finding places to hide while other children seek them out. Others sit in the shade under the trees, drawing, playing games and chatting socially.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from flexible routines and from staff who are aware of the need for children to have fun at their club and to make choices. The policy of inclusion works well in practice. As a result, children's behaviour is generally good. They respond to staff in a positive way listening to requests to be quiet and understand why there need to be rules. Children have been involved in writing up a set of 'club rules'. There are good opportunities for children to join in all the activities and the resources are easily accessible. Unfortunately, much of the outdoor play equipment is stored in the disabled toilet and this means that it is not available for its intended use, preventing disabled visitors from using the facility. When parents collect their children, they chat to staff and share information. Staff respond in a friendly and professional way. The use of the notice board, newsletters and the web site help to keep parents informed. However, the prospectus is not available as it is currently being updated. The club maintains written policies to keep parents informed about the service and these are available in a folder with some procedures on display.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

All required and mandatory documents are in order and appropriately maintained. Children's records are kept confidentially and are readily available to parents on request. Registers are clear and show when children, staff and visitors are present. The manager and her small team of staff work well together sharing tasks and responsibilities. Staff are keen to take part in the regular in-house training provided by Kent Play Clubs. They are able to identify any training needs and are proactive in accessing suitable courses. In addition, staff receive good support from their coordinator. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 children's safety whilst cooking and preparing meals
- make the disabled toilet facility available.

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