

# Stay and Play Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	309693
<b>Inspection date</b>	22 November 2007
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<b>Setting Address</b>	Broughton C of E Primary School, Church Lane, Broughton, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 5JB
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<b>Registered person</b>	Stay and Play Club
<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?

Stay and Play Club has been registered since 1996. It operates from Broughton Primary School in Broughton, Lancashire. It is run by a management committee.

Children have the use of the old school hall building and toilet facilities. There is a large adjacent outdoor play area offering both hard and grassed surfaces.

The setting is open each weekday from 07.45 to 08.45 and from 15.30 to 17.30 during term times only. There are currently 60 children on roll, of which 47 are under the age of eight. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and there are no children attending for whom English is an additional language.

The committee employs seven staff, of which five hold appropriate early years qualifications. The club is a member of 4Children network, an association for out of school clubs.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are adequately protected from infection and taken care of if they have an accident or become ill. Staff follow general health and hygiene guidelines, such as the sick children policy. Accident and existing injury records are routinely countersigned by parents to promote children's continuing care. Good standards of hygiene and cleanliness are maintained in areas used by children. Children state that they use liquid soap and disposable towels or a hand dryer. Staff obtain sufficient information from parents with regard to health conditions such as asthma.

Children are aware of healthy eating through school and home, but this is not reinforced in the settings. Children are not provided with nutritional snacks, for example children have biscuit and juice as their snack, and they are not provided with a snack in the breakfast club. These measures do not help to meet children's daily nutritional requirements.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment in which their physical needs are extremely well met, contributing to their good health. The children actively participate in a wide range of physical indoors and outdoors activities. For example, the range of outdoor activities includes football, running and an adventure play area, where they climb and balance. This encourages their understanding of exercise and physical development.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The setting is made warm and welcoming for children, which provides them with a sense of belonging. They can move freely around the hall. However, the premises are not made secure and therefore an intruder can gain access to the children's toilets; this jeopardises children's safety. Children play with quality resources and equipment that are of good design and condition. Staff systematically check items for repair and replacement.

Children purposefully learn boundaries and limits. They know not to run inside, in order to avoid accidental injury, and not to go beyond the railing when outdoors. The environment is visually risk assessed before children arrive, so that they have ample choice in where they go. There is fire procedure in place and fire drills are conducted regularly to teach children about keeping safe. The supervision of children is good as staff alert each other when they are leaving areas or taking children to another area.

Children are appropriately protected because staff fully understand their role in child protection. They know the procedures to follow should a concern arise. However, the child protection policy is not shared with parents, which compromises children's welfare.

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

The provision is good.

Children are settled and are very confident in the setting. They enjoy and achieve because the staff are skilled and use their knowledge to plan interesting, challenging and achievable activities for children of all ages. The children are occupied and enjoy making choices promoting their independence, such as asking to play outdoors. Children enjoy a variety of outdoor play

experiences; they develop their physical skills as they run around in the fresh air. This is most welcoming to children following a day in school.

There is a range of resources that includes construction, craft material, dolls, books and interactive toys. Children are well supported as staff work and play directly with individual children or within small groups, and respond to their needs and interests. For example, during pretend play, children shared their experiences of 'Santa's grotto' with other children, promoting confidence and self-esteem. Children make parachute paper and string and are eager to show off their creations. This promotes children's imagination and creativity. Staff show genuine care and warmth towards the children, they know them well as they all attend the school, and staff ensure they have equal access and are fully occupied and enjoying themselves.

Older children take responsibility for helping the younger children in their play, for example when they make a space ship and futuristic castle from small construction blocks. They enjoy opportunities to giggle, laugh and smile as they communicate with their friends and staff during their time at the setting. This means children's social needs and social skills are catered for in a positive and encouraging environment.

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

The provision is good.

Children are treated with equal concern, they are fully included and involved. Children are actively encouraged to make choices about the toys and games they wish to play with. Children feel a sense of belonging, as they know the staff and follow a consistent routine to help them feel secure and confident.

Children are learning to take responsibility for their own behaviour because the staff follow positive and appropriate strategies for helping children learn to manage their behaviour. Children learn the boundaries and guidelines because staff are consistent. Staff speak positively to children, using praise and encouragement effectively to celebrate their efforts and achievements. As a consequence children are confident and display high self-esteem. Children play harmoniously together and older children support the younger children as they freely select their own toys and play equipment. Children and staff have good relationships which contribute to children being generally settled and happy.

Parents are informed of the setting's policies and procedures because the staff provide a noticeboard for parents offering information on the facility. Children benefit from positive relationships with staff and their parents as they chat together at the end of the sessions. Parents state that they are happy with the service and that it is flexible to meet their needs. They state that the staff are friendly and approachable and that they are familiar with the committee members.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Most regulatory documentation is in place, however, some records are not available and some procedures need to be updated to reflect current practices. For example, the fire drill records are not to hand, the staff attendance does not show their arrival and departure times and the complaint procedure has incorrect contact details. This means the safety of the children is compromised.

The staff have an informal routine in place which is based on the children's needs, thus enabling them to gain maximum enjoyment from activities provided. Staff organise space, resources and routines to support children's all round development and welfare. The sessions are child-led as staff respond to the children's interests with plenty of free play and free choice. Staff are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and work well together as a team. This promotes consistency of care within the setting.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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

At the last inspection two recommendations were raised and these were to amend the child protection policy to include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff, and to amend the uncollected child policy.

The setting has amended both the policies to reflect current legislation and practices. This has further enhanced children's welfare and safety.

### **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 healthy nutritious food is provided to promote children's development
- make sure the premises are made secure when the club is in operation
- share the child protection policy with parents
- ensure the daily record of staff's attendance is recorded with arrival and departure times, and make sure all documents relating to the provision reflect current practices and are available for inspection.

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)