

BEADIES (Before & After School Club)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	316773
Inspection date	21 February 2008
Inspector	Christine Marsh
Setting Address	Danesmoor Drive, Bury, Lancashire, BL9 6ER
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Registered person	BEADIES (Before & After School 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.

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?

BEADIES before and after school club has registered since 2003. It is run by a management committee and operates from St Joseph's and St Bede's RC Primary School. The children have access to the main school hall and associated facilities. There is a fully enclosed outdoor play area. It is situated in a residential area of Bury and serves the children attending the school.

There are currently 55 children on roll aged from five to under eight years and children up to the age of 11 may attend. A maximum of 32 children can attend at any one time. Children attend a variety of sessions. The club opens five days a week term time only. Sessions are from 07.30 to 09.15 and 15.15 to 17.15. The club supports several children who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs six members of staff all of whom hold recognised early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Staff are up to date in their first aid training which enables them to look after children appropriately in the event of any minor accidents. Staff have up to date food hygiene certificates and robust hygiene procedures ensure that children are cared for in a clean environment. The risk of cross-infection is minimised by routines which promote good hygiene practices, for example, children are encouraged to wash their hands before they have a snack and after using the toilet.

Children's dietary needs are discussed with parents and information is recorded and followed at all times, for example, where children have allergies that could require medical treatment all staff are trained so that they are able to administer medication should this be required. A snack and a drink is provided at the beginning of each session. Drinks are available throughout the session and children access these independently so they stay refreshed. Snacks always include fresh fruit or vegetables. Children benefit from the nutritious food provided during their time at the club.

Children are involved in cooking activities, such as making pizzas or pancakes, which they enjoy eating.

Fresh air and exercise are experienced every day when the weather is fine. As soon as snack time is over children go off to play. They enjoy a variety of active pursuits outdoors, for example, they organise their own games, such as football and catch using a giant ball. Staff organise additional physical pursuits, for example, children are currently having a series of dance sessions which are broadening their range of physical activities. Children happily engage in physical play that contributes to a healthy lifestyle. Indoor games involving wooden bricks encourage children to learn about balance, shape and position. Children build complex constructions that demonstrate a high level of skill and concentration. Free choice of paper and drawing materials are available to children who draw pictures related to themes, such as Halloween and Mother's Day. These activities help to develop children's fine motor skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a secure and welcoming environment. The premises are kept locked and staff admit parents on arrival. Children do not leave the hall without permission and they are well supervised during sessions. Children sign themselves in and parents sign them out. Registers are up to date and maintain an accurate record of the children and staff present at each session. These measures help to keep children safe.

Children have access to a range of appropriate equipment and games that are in good condition, age appropriate, clean and safe. Staff have activities available for children on arrival and children choose additional resources to extend their play. Resources are stored in clearly labelled plastic tubs for easy recognition. Children participate eagerly in activities chatting happily to their friends and to staff as they play.

Emergency evacuation procedures have been clearly thought through by staff and are undertaken, however, there has not been a practice recently which means that new children

are not familiar with the procedure in the event of an emergency. Children are closely supervised during activities and staff work closely with children sitting playing table games with them and organising card games with giant cards, such as one based on a television game that children are familiar with. Enjoyment is evident as children participate eagerly.

Staff have a good knowledge of child protection procedures and update their training on a regular basis which helps to make sure that children's welfare is safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and confident in the setting. Their positive experiences mean that sometimes they are reluctant to leave their games and friends to go home. Parents and carers chat to staff and wait amicably as their children complete their activities. Children benefit from the range of activities available to them. Relaxation and opportunities to be sociable with other children are a high priority as the children have already had a busy day at school.

Children's views are sought in choosing new resources. At the end of the school year staff and children sit and look at catalogues of toys and equipment together, choosing items they would like to supplement the existing resources. In this way children gain a strong sense of ownership and involvement in the club. Activities are rotated to maintain children's interest. Snooker, table football and air hockey are popular games. Children happily engage in these activities demonstrating their skills.

Children draw and write using wipe clean boards. Children write numbers and draw pictures which they talk about. They laugh at their friends descriptions of the stories behind their drawings. Children enjoy computer games which they play in school. These are all educational and include a range of self corrective ones, for example, on shape matching and sorting, that help to consolidate children's knowledge. Children can do their homework at the club if they wish and sometimes parents ask staff to help them, for example, by hearing children read.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are met. Children who need further support are catered for by providing additional staff. This helps them to settle and to become happily integrated as members of the club. Most children start attending the club when they begin school and stay until they leave the juniors. This results in a strong sense of community with older children helping younger ones. Brothers and sisters attend, mixed age groups are common and friendships are evident as they play.

Good behaviour is encouraged. The policy encourages children to consider their behaviour and how it affects others. Children behave well. The recent introduction of 'The star of the week' award with a small prize has proved popular. All children who do something positive get a raffle ticket which is placed in a container then, at the end of the week, a ticket is picked out from the tub to find the winner. The winning child's photograph is displayed on the notice board. Staff give older children responsibilities, such as supporting younger, newer children during games. Younger children benefit from the friendship and support of the older ones. Older children sort, wash and distribute fruit to classrooms. These responsibilities nurture a sense of emotional well-being and maturity in the children.

Through their activities, children are learning to appreciate the diversity of the world and the value which people of all cultures have to offer. Resources promote a positive view of difference, for example, dressing up clothes and toys show and value people from different cultures and include those with disabilities. Topics relate to seasonal and religious festivals, different ones are chosen from those studied in school to provide variety for the children.

Parents value the provision and the quality of service it provides for their children. Parents and carers have a good relationship with staff which benefits the children who enjoy their leisure time at the setting. Parents comment on their children's enjoyment of the club saying it is, 'Brilliant' because of the opportunities for play and friendship it provides for their children and because it enables them to work, for example, the breakfast club started opening earlier in response to the parents' need to bring children earlier to give them time to travel to work.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a friendly environment which successfully promotes their care and development. The manager and her staff are well qualified and appropriately vetted. This helps to keep children safe within the setting. Children benefit from a stable and established staff team all of whom work within the school during the day so they know the children well and have good relationships with them.

Ratios are always met. A named deputy has been appointed to cover if the manager is absent. Documentation required by the National Standards is suitably in place including policies and procedures. The certificate of registration, together with other information for parents and carers, is displayed on the notice board. Parents complete registration forms when their children start at the club and details are checked regularly and updated. Parents are informed about policies and procedures. In these ways staff and parents communicate well with each other promoting children's safety.

Children are familiar with the routines and are well settled at the club. As a consequence of the setting's organisation, children have access to a range of stimulating materials and games and enjoy their leisure time at the club.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was asked to provide a policy on sick children and one on the club's child protection procedure. These policies have been written and are adhered to by staff. This protects children's health 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 can be seen 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):

- practise emergency evacuation procedures regularly.

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