

Eatock Care Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	403585
Inspection date	12 September 2007
Inspector	Anne Mort
Setting Address	Eatock County Primary School, St George's Avenue, Westhoughton, Bolton, BL5 2ER
Telephone number	01942 634679
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Registered person	Eatock Care 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Eatock Out Of School Club opened in 1998 and is run by a voluntary management committee. The provision is sited in a primary school in the Westhoughton area of Bolton. Children use the main school hall, the community room and the information technology suite. All children share access to the outside playground of the school.

The facility is open from 07.30 to 08.50 and from 15.15 to 18.00 each week day during term time. The provision also offers holiday play schemes that are open 07.30 to 18.00 each week day.

The facility employs five members of staff. Four members of staff hold an appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have opportunity to develop their physical ability. There is a range of resources to promote physical development. These enable children to practise fine and gross motor control. For instance, indoors, children have the use of construction materials, scissors, pens and crayons. Outside, they use a variety of equipment, for instance, balancing beams, climbing apparatus, tyres and balls.

Consideration is given to cleanliness. Children practise good hygiene habits as hand washing is a part of the daily routine. The toilet facilities include space for where there is a physical disability. They are very clean and stocked with appropriate toiletries. Children's health in other areas is well supported as staff have had first aid training. Detailed recording of accidents takes place. All reasonable steps are taken in the matters of food preparation and delivery and staff hold food hygiene certificates.

Children understand what constitutes healthy eating as the staff talk to them about this. Children's needs for drinks are considered and these are provided at snack times. The manager offers children an ice pop as it is a hot day and the children are playing outside. However, children do not have the opportunity to freely choose a drink and self-serve. At tea time children enjoy their smiley faces and meat balls. Children's dietary needs are given consideration and salad and fruit are part of the planned menu.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are at ease in the organised environment and move freely and with confidence. This is due to the staff's constant but not overwhelming supervision. Staff monitor the presentation of play materials to make sure they are interesting and support children's developing skills. Outside, children are given free choice whether to be busy on apparatus or sit and relax on the outdoor seating. Indoors, there is free choice and children have the use of drawing materials, construction and shared games.

Staff keep children safe in their care. When attending the club children from other schools are walked to the facility. Staff allow persons known to them into the provision to collect their child at the end of the session. Parents then sign them out or staff sign the register to note a child has left their care. There is no outings policy. However, children's safety is assured as risk assessments take place before children are taken out on trips.

Children have knowledge and experience of the emergency evacuation procedure for the club. Written records show fire drills are carried out on a regular basis. Children's welfare is given due consideration, evidenced in the documentation about child protection. The manager is not fully aware of management's role in dealing with a child protection concern. However, children's welfare is safe guarded as both she and staff have knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect. They are also aware that the child protection policy provides guidelines and contact numbers of relevant agencies.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff present a friendly, supportive atmosphere for the children. Children are confident and settle well in the provision. They are at ease and relate well to the staff and to each other. They make their own decisions whether to play alone or in a small group. There is opportunity for children to develop social and physical skills. In outdoor play their conversational skills develop as they sit and talk to each other and to members of staff. Staff use age appropriate conversation, ask questions and listen to the children's response. When using the climbing equipment children decide upon the rules of a game and share and take turns. They use their imaginations and take tyres to the field and engage in imaginary play.

Displays within the room illustrate that children develop their concentration span, artistic ability and pencil control. For instance, they have drawn their own face from clear photographs of themselves, these are valued and on display. Children are interested due to the commitment of the staff who offer appropriate activities, such as creativity sessions and outside games. Children enjoy exploring the outside play area. They spend their time purposefully or at leisure, thoroughly enjoying their time with each other and with the staff.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's needs are met as they take part in a care routine agreed between staff at the provision and their parents. Staff are committed to the children and treat each child with respect, taking time to listen to their conversation and answer any queries.

Children have access to suitable, age appropriate games, toys and books. There are limited resources to illustrate positive images of different cultures and disability. All children are welcome in the provision and the manager seeks additional information where a child has a specific need. Staff work in a calm and consistent manner. As a result, children are well behaved. They are supported and supervised by staff and choose where to play. This develops their independence and they choose to engage in activities that interest them, for instance construction tasks with the tyres and ball play.

Children's care and well-being is supported. Parents note on documentation all relevant details about their child to enable appropriate care to be given. There are arrangements in place for staff to exchange information about a child and the day's events when the child is collected. Parents are happy about the care on offer and the paperwork made available to them. Partnership with parents is promoted by the staff's friendly approach, the information leaflet made available to parents and the notice board that displays topical information.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's welfare and all round development is supported. Children are secure and at ease in the organised play environment. Staff are aware to keep children safe from persons who have not undertaken a vetting procedure.

Children play in a tidy, uncluttered room that leads to an enclosed outdoor play area. This area gives space for free movement and exploration. Children's needs are met as staff manage their time effectively. The manager ensures that staff are always present when children play outside

and that a member of staff is present when parents sign their child out of the facility. The daily attendance register for children is maintained but staff do not note their own hours of attendance. This is a breach of regulations.

The documentation that is held is in line with the National Standards for out of school care and used to promote the welfare of children. It is clear, concise and relates directly to the planning and delivery of a satisfactory out of school care service. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the time of the last inspection the provider was asked to evaluate the effectiveness of activities, ensure the cleanliness of the toilet facility and to ensure staff are suitable, with suitable staffing levels. Also, to update and ensure that all paperwork is available for inspection, with policies and procedures made available to parents. In addition to this it was also asked that the provider detailed how procedures to deputise would be made effective and to provide a secure system for the safe collection of children.

All but one of these have been addressed. As a result, evaluation of the activities is discussed informally with the children and parents are to receive a questionnaire to ask their opinion as to the resources on offer. Children's health and safety is promoted as the toilet facility is very clean. All staff have undergone a suitable vetting procedure and correct staffing ratios are maintained. Policies and procedures have been updated, are made available to parents and are available for inspection.

There is a named deputy who is aware of her duties and is always on site if the manager is absent. She is currently undertaking training to obtain a level 3 qualification. The facility keeps the entrance door locked at all times and a viewing panel in the door alerts staff of the arrival of a parent or visitor. Parents use the register to sign out their own child and note the departure time before they leave. However, an outing policy is not in evidence and so remains a recommendation.

Following a recent visit by Ofsted, actions were raised in relation to ensuring that significant events are reported to Ofsted and that a person with a current first aid certificate is present at all times. A system has been put in place to meet these actions which has enhanced the organisation of the provision.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection Ofsted has received one complaint about the provision. Ofsted received concerns relating to National Standard 1: Suitable Person, National Standard 2: Organisation, National Standard 8: Food and Drink and National Standard 11: Behaviour. A childcare inspector visited the provision on 26 July 2005. Actions were raised and satisfactorily met by the registered provider. At the time this investigation was concluded the provider remained 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):

- make drinking water available at all times
- develop understanding of the management role in dealing with child protection concerns
- implement an operational procedure for the safe conduct of any outings provided
- establish an effective procedure for registering staff attendance on a daily basis, showing hours of attendance.

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