

# Childwall C of E Primary School out of school club

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	503956
<b>Inspection date</b>	13 March 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Elizabeth Margaret Grocott
<b>Setting Address</b>	Childwall C of E Primary School, Woolton Road, Childwall, Liverpool, Merseyside, L16 0JD
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<b>Registered person</b>	After School (U.K) Ltd
<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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Childwall C of E Primary School out of school club has been registered since August 2000. It is one of six provisions, privately owned and managed by a limited company. It operates from rooms within Childwall C of E Primary School, in Merseyside. The club is solely for children who attend the primary school. All share access to a large secure outdoor area.

A maximum of 40 children from four years to eight years may attend the club at any one time. There are currently 83 children on roll. The club operates on weekdays from 08.00 to 09.00 and 15.30 to 17.45 in school term time only. There are five staff working directly with children. Two staff hold childcare qualifications. The setting receives support from the early years advisory team.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in warm, clean premises where satisfactory standards of hygiene are maintained. Staff implement routines, such as wearing aprons for preparing snacks and ensuring tables and

food storage areas are kept clean. Children's welfare is safeguarded as staff meet the requirements regarding first aid training and a fully stocked first aid kit is available. Written policies are in place regarding sickness, accidents and administration of medicine. However, not all accident records have been completed correctly and some children do not have parental permission for the club to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. This puts children at risk.

The club promotes healthy eating in their snacks. For example, children enjoy tomato soup and crusty bread and a selection of fresh fruit. They also regularly have peppers, carrots and cucumber with pitta bread and salad. They explore different cultures to increase their knowledge of the wider world, for example, tasting Chinese foods and eating with their fingers. All staff are made aware of individual dietary requirements and preferences which are discussed with parents, such as allergies.

Outdoor play is a part of each session, weather permitting. The children have plenty of resources to support this, such as bats and balls, skipping ropes, bean bags and hoops and a parachute. It is also an opportunity for children to let off steam after a hard day at school.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a bright and welcoming environment, where they are able to feel settled and comfortable. Their work is valued but staff are unable to display evidence of their achievements and photographs of what they have been doing, because of lack of space. This does not help to promote children's sense of belonging and self-esteem. Children move freely around the areas used within the familiar environment of their school. However, as the areas are used by the school up until when the club starts, it is not possible to prepare for the children in advance.

Children have access to a suitable range of toys and resources that are of appropriate quality, safe and well maintained. Craft, construction, small world play, role play, musical instruments, books and sport are all available to the children. They are involved in choosing what they want to play with from the large store cupboard, as well as staff planning craft activities in advance. If children wish to rest, there are soft cushions arranged in an area so they can 'chill out'. A quieter area is provided for children who wish to do their homework.

Security is good. The out of school club can only be accessed by a doorbell system. Younger children are collected from their classrooms and older children make their way to the designated meeting point. The system for the collection of children is safe as parents provide passwords and no child is allowed to go with anybody who is not known to the staff. Daily visual risk assessments are undertaken, as well as a monthly more formal assessment. Fire evacuation drills are practised each term. However, the record of the drill held in the autumn term cannot be found.

Children's welfare is further safeguarded as staff have a sound understanding of the procedures to follow if they have any concerns, in line with the local safeguarding children procedures. The child protection policy is shared with parents in the parent pack. This promotes the children's well-being.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and relaxed within the environment. They enjoy taking part in a range of free-play and adult-led activities which include sports, craft and boxed games. Children form good relationships with staff and readily approach them to request games or for assistance, for example, to ask to go to the toilet. Staff interact with the children and listen to them, showing interest in what they have to say. This helps to develop children's confidence. Staff get down to children's level and play games with them. Children regularly dress up, participate in a wide range of art and craft activities, engage in physical activity, play games and make choices. They model with clay and make key rings and masks.

Children tell the visitor that they can choose anything they want from the cupboard, watch television or videos and can play football outside. They say that their club is 'brilliant' and everyone is kind. At times during the inspection the manager is busy with the visitor. Although there are plenty of staff available, they do not take the initiative in providing a good range of play opportunities. There are some boxed games, pencils, pens and paper, large construction blocks and a wooden balancing game put out for the children. Plans made demonstrate that this is not the usual occurrence.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for by staff who know the children in their care, clearly respect them and meet their individual needs. The staff try to involve the children wherever possible in the planning of activities. Staff choose student counsellors who take a lead role in supporting the younger children. They provide a listening ear for them and feedback to the staff. All children are involved in writing a regular newsletter for parents. Children learn and value diversity as they are provided with a range of resources promoting positive images. These include paint, representing different coloured skin tones, books, puzzles, role play and dolls. They also celebrate some of the more well-known festivals, such as Chinese New Year and Diwali. Staff working at the setting have a sound knowledge of some learning difficulties and disabilities, enabling them to support the children accordingly.

Children's behaviour is good. They respond well to requests from staff and enjoy mutually respectful relationships with staff and each other. They generally use good manners, share and take turns. The staff reward children for their positive behaviour. They receive praise and encouragement, and a sticker system for younger children results in a certificate.

Children benefit from the staff's positive relationships with their parents and have their individual needs respected. They are cared for in line with parents' wishes. Parents receive a detailed information pack regarding the group's policies and the procedures. The complaints procedure has been updated in line with current legislation, and information displayed on the parents noticeboard enables them to follow the procedure should they wish. Confidentiality is maintained and respected in the maintenance and storage of records.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is inadequate.

Children benefit from staff who interact with them and give them good support and encouragement, which helps them feel secure and confident. All staff have an induction session

prior to starting work and this covers policies, procedures, health and safety, child protection and fire evacuation, to ensure they are familiar with the running of the group. However, recruitment procedures are not robust and do not ensure all adults working with the children are suitable to do so. The manager of the setting has not been deemed suitable by the regulator and has not submitted to the necessary checks. This is a breach of regulations and puts children at risk. The system to ensure that all staff checks are available for inspection is flawed.

Although two members of staff have childcare qualifications, the minimum requirement of half of the staff team being qualified is not met. The person in charge does not have the required play work qualification. This is a breach of regulations.

The staff team are relatively new and as yet have not come together to form a cohesive team. They take their lead from the manager, but as she is busy talking to the visitor, they are not confident in providing a varied programme of activities to sustain children's enjoyment and interest. Staff maintain the required ratios, therefore, children receive suitable adult support. Documentation is generally well maintained with the exception of some missing signatures.

Overall, the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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

At the last care inspection the provider was asked to formalise induction training, make fresh drinking water available for children and ensure that staff have full awareness of notifiable and communicable diseases. The whole staff team has changed since the last inspection, but the newly formalised induction procedure ensures that staff are given all the necessary information in connection with caring for and safeguarding children. Children are provided with jugs of drinking water and cups, so that they can help themselves when they are thirsty.

### **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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure that there are effective procedures in place for checking that staff are suitable to work with children. Make certain that the person in charge has had satisfactory clearance from the regulator, before being in day to day charge
- develop and implement an action plan that sets out how the supervisor will achieve a relevant level 3 qualification
- develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half of all childcare staff will hold a level 2 qualification in childcare.

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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)