

Live and Kicking Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY260945
Inspection date	14 August 2007
Inspector	Anne Mort
Setting Address	740 Preston Old Road, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 5EN
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Registered person	Live and Kicking Out of 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?

Live and Kicking out of school club is run by a voluntary management board and opened in 2003. It operates from the lower level of a church hall in the Pleasington area of Blackburn. Children have the use of this hall, together with planned use of the larger upstairs hall. Although there is no outdoor play area children are taken to a local sports field to play.

The setting opens from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.30 until 18.00 term time and from 07.45 to 18.00 during school holidays. A maximum of 40 children may attend the setting at any one time. There are currently 50 children on roll, all of whom attend on a part-time basis. The facility currently supports children with specific needs. The club serves three local primary schools and children are either transported in a vehicle or walk with staff to and from the facility.

The club employs five members of staff. Three members of staff hold relevant early years qualifications. Two members of staff are working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have opportunity to develop their physical ability. For outside play they are taken to the nearby sports field to enjoy outdoor play equipment and engage in team games. Indoors, they have the use of skipping ropes, a rocker and games that encourage physical movement. Children develop fine muscle control, for instance, in the use of pencils, scissors and crayons.

Consideration is given to cleanliness and children practice good hygiene habits with hand washing a part of the daily routine. However, all children line up at lunch time and have to wait to attend to their personal needs. Children's care is supported as staff have had first aid training. There is an organised system in place to record all accidents and the administration of medication.

Children understand what constitutes healthy eating as the staff talk to them about this as they remove the contents of their lunch boxes. Children's needs for drinks are given due consideration. Staff serve drinks at lunch time. Children are aware they can ask for a drink but the large drinks bottles mean children are not able to self-serve should they become thirsty during the session times. Children's emotional needs are being met due to the staff presenting lunch time as a chatty, sociable occasion. Children choose their place at the table, friends sit together and older children help younger ones.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children's safety is thoroughly promoted. They have a safe environment in which to play as risks are minimised due to the diligence of the staff. Written risk assessments of the premises are carried out with control measures noted. Staff present the physical layout of the resources in the hall with care, to ensure an uncluttered floor and clear walking space near doorways. This allows children to play independently and explore the activities on offer.

Children are completely at ease in the well 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. Children are given complete free choice whether to be active or quiet and they select from a wealth of resources that include a pool table, a dolls house, drawing materials, sand, construction, role play clothing and shared games.

Staff keep children safe in their care. When attending club in term time children are either transported in a vehicle or walk with staff to the facility from their school. Children wear luminous jackets. They walk in twos, with an older child holding the hand of a younger one. Children are made aware of the dangers of roads and practice road safety procedures on a daily basis. Staff allow persons known to them into the provision to collect their child at the end of the session. Parents then sign their child out or staff sign the register to note a child has left their care. 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 priority by the procedures in place and documents held about child protection. The manager has a good level of awareness of her role in child protection issues. She ensures all staff are made aware of their role and of the policies and procedures in place.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Staff present and effect a friendly, supportive atmosphere for the children. Children are confident and settle very well in the provision. They are at ease and relate well to the staff and to each other. They are enthusiastic and make their own decisions whether to play alone or in a small group. There is ample opportunity for children to develop social and physical skills.

Children develop their concentration span and artistic ability. They freely draw with no interruption or involvement by the staff. They are very competent at handling pencils, glue and scissors and their skill in this area is developing rapidly as they are given complete freedom in their usage. Children are motivated and interested due to the commitment of the staff who plan and present stimulating activities and trips out, such as the baking session today and the recent trip out to a science based venue. Children rapidly develop their language skills and their conversational ability is promoted. This is because staff use age appropriate and stimulating conversation, ask questions and listen to the children's response. Staff also promote the children's independence by offering varying levels of support.

Children use their imaginations, are becoming independent learners and develop manipulative skills. They use the building blocks and sand to make the home play area into a building site, complete with hard hats for visitors and written safety notices. Children have the opportunity to sit and relax whilst experiencing early reading skills. A child engages a member of staff with a book and they sit quietly as the child listens to the story. The child is able to turn the pages and predict the story line. The child eagerly chooses another book and the member of staff accommodates the child's request for another story.

Children benefit greatly from the staff knowing them well and responding to their needs and personalities. They create and sustain a happy atmosphere in which children's care and learning is significantly enhanced.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's needs are well met as they take part in a care routine agreed between staff at the provision and their parents. All children are welcome in the provision and the manager and staff are pro-active in providing for inclusion as they welcome and support children with specific needs. Staff are committed to the children and treat each child with respect, taking time to listen to their conversation and answer any queries. Children are becoming aware of the wider world in their trips out to places of interest. Resources are on offer that provide images of different cultures, gender and disability.

Staff work in a calm and consistent manner. As a result children are extremely 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 example drawing, construction tasks, sand play and reading. Children use suitable resources, both age appropriate and those which present a realistic and effective challenge. For instance, children engage in a game of pool with a volunteer worker.

Children's care and well-being is fully 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. Partnership with parents is enhanced by the staff's professional yet friendly approach, the information booklet made available to parents and the notice board that gives information about the provision.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The facility is very well organised. Several certificates illustrate the manager's commitment to further her knowledge base and keep abreast of current affairs in childcare. As a result children's welfare and all round development is very well promoted. Children are very secure and at ease in the stimulating play environment. Staff are aware to keep children safe from persons who have not undertaken a vetting procedure and are extra vigilant when on outings with the children.

Children play in a tidy, uncluttered hall. This room gives space for free movement and exploration. Children's needs are met as staff manage their time effectively. They are good role models and attend to children's developmental needs and interests in the provision of suitable and more challenging resources.

Paperwork is held in line with the National Standards for out of school care. It reflects the manager's commitment to provide a high standard of care for all children and is used effectively to promote their welfare. Documentation is clear, concise, jargon free and relates directly to the planning and delivery of a good out of school care service. It is robust and fully supports the practice and knowledge of skilled practitioners.

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 there were recommendations regarding health and safety. Both of these have been addressed, children can access toilets on the lower and upper level of the building. There is clear documentation in place for the administration of medicine to children.

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):

- promote children's independence at meal times.

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