

Superkids

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY290989
Inspection date	11 September 2007
Inspector	Valerie Craven
Setting Address	Kingsmead Primary School, Dukes Way Kingsmead, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 8WA
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Registered person	Teresa Ann Clark
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 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?

Superkids Out of School Club it is one of a number of settings within the Superkids Group. It opened in 2004 and operates from designated areas, including the hall, library and two classrooms at Kingsmead Primary School, Northwich. It is situated within walking distance of local shops and Northwich Town Centre. The setting serves the local community and beyond.

There are currently 50 children from four to eight years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. A maximum of 50 children may attend the setting at any one time. It operates five mornings and five afternoons, Monday to Friday from 07.30 to 9.00 and 15.00 to 18.00 during term time only.

There are three full time members of staff who work directly with the children. One member of staff has a relevant childcare qualification; National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 3 in play work and two members of staff are currently undertaking NVQ level 2 in play work.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children benefit from modern premises which are clean and well maintained. They have access to a number of areas including the school hall, library, classrooms and outdoors, which offer light, spacious areas for active play and rest. Hygienic procedures, which promote children's health, are well followed. For example, tables are wiped with anti-bacterial spray to ensure that they are clean before serving food. Policies, such as a sick children policy, are in place and are well implemented to promote children's health and well-being. Medication is stored safely and parental consent is obtained before any medication is administered. Parents have given consent for emergency medical treatment and first aid facilities are available. However, there is not always a member of staff available with first aid training, which compromises children's health in the case of an accident or emergency.

Children flourish as they access very good opportunities for physical play. They enjoy using the large and well equipped play areas where they are able to climb, balance and confidently explore their physical abilities. Many small items of equipment are available to develop co-ordination and skills as children skip and play skittles or quick cricket. Indoors children like to play with small wheeled vehicles. Comfortable seating areas are provided in the library, where children are able to rest. Children enthusiastically participate in the outdoor activities and help themselves to drinks from the water cooler when they are too hot. At snack time, they are offered a selection of sugar-free drinks and water, which ensures that they are well hydrated. Children thrive as they are offered a range of healthy and nutritious snacks, such as carrot sticks, crackers and fruit.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The premises are very safe and secure. Doors are kept locked and visitors to the out of school club are admitted by staff and are usually recorded in the visitors book. Children are met at the classroom and escorted to the out of school club by staff. Registers are appropriately maintained and parents sign when they collect their children to promote safety. The club is mainly held in the school hall, which has ample space to provide a number of activities. However, the space is not always effectively organised to minimise the risk of accidents as children participate in the activities. The outdoor environment provides extensive space and a variety of surfaces for children to participate in a wide range of activities safely. Toys and equipment are well maintained and detailed risk assessments are in place which ensure that staff are aware of the potential hazards the equipment may present. Good staff ratios are maintained to ensure that staff are able to supervise children at all times. Children are aware of fire procedures, which are regularly practised to ensure their safety in the case of an emergency. They learn how to keep themselves safe on the roads or with strangers, through topics and activities. The manager is aware of his responsibilities towards child protection and new staff would refer any concerns to him, to ensure that children are adequately safeguarded. Policies are in place to protect children from abuse.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy to attend the out of school club, where they are able to choose from a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Children's confidence and self esteem is raised through praise and encouragement, as staff recognise children's achievements. Sufficient effective support is given, which nurtures children's independence as they enjoy making books, cards and junk model monsters. Children have good relationships with established members of staff and are beginning to develop relationships with new members of staff. They are provided with a variety of activities including books to read, table games, electronic toys and wheeled vehicles to ride on. The limited storage space restricts the number of activities which are available. Creative activities allow some opportunities for children to develop their imagination, but there are few opportunities for children to dress up or engage in role play. Outdoors children are very involved in self chosen activities and have great fun as they challenge their friends in games of quick cricket and obstacle courses. Quiet activities, such as making monsters with multi-coloured hair, are taken into the seating area to enable children to finish what they are doing. Children's social skills are promoted well through discussions regarding club rules, table games and snack time, where they sit and chat together.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children who attend the primary school are able to use the out of school club. Children have equal access to the facilities and activities which are offered. Staff value and respect children and encourage everyone to play a full part in the out of school club, to develop a sense of belonging. However, children have a limited selection of resources available to them, to fully promote their understanding of the wider world. Children sometimes learn about other cultures through activities based on festivals such as Chinese New Year. The club is able to cater for children with learning difficulties or disabilities. There are good staff ratios and facilities available to offer appropriate support.

Staff speak quietly to children and offer appropriate praise, to develop children's understanding of acceptable behaviour. Physical punishments or threat of them are not used. Behaviour management strategies used which are familiar to the children and are used in the school are used to promote a consistent approach. Rules have been devised by children, which enable their ideas to be valued within the setting and promote their involvement.

Parents are sufficiently informed about activities and routines at the setting. At registration they are offered an information pack and are able to access policies and procedures on request. A complaints log and procedure are available, should parents have any concerns about the care which their children receive. Regular information is given to parents about the activities provided for their children. Children's needs are met as parents talk to staff at the end of the session, to ensure that children are cared for in accordance with their wishes.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The organisation of this setting is inadequate as there are four breaches in regulations and requirements of registration. This has a negative impact on children's welfare. At the time of inspection three members of staff were present, none of whom have relevant qualifications or

experience in childcare. Not all of these staff were fully vetted. Additionally only the manager has training in first aid, which does not ensure that someone is appropriately trained to meet children's needs at all times. Individual records containing the name and address of the staff members and information about recruitment, training and qualifications are not available for inspection, to ensure that children are cared for by suitable people. Daily organisation of the setting is adequate, providing times for indoor and outdoor play and snack time. Documentation shows there are suitable arrangements for signing children, visitors and staff into the building. The children's personal details and register are accessible, well maintained and confidentially stored. Policies and procedures to promote children's health, safety and well-being are available to staff and for inspection. 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 inspection, the provider was required to ensure that the written permission from parents before administering medication to children, is securely filed. Appropriate consents are now maintained and stored securely in a lockable unit which helps to maintain confidentiality.

Additionally, the provider was required to develop and implement an action plan detailing how half of all childcare staff will hold at least a level 2 qualification in childcare. Two new members of staff are enrolled on a childcare course, to enable them to obtain the relevant qualification in order to improve their skills and knowledge to enhance children's care and learning.

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
- ensure that all staff details are readily accessible and available for inspection at all times
- make sure enough staff are trained in first aid to ensure that at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate is on the premises or on outings at any one time

- develop an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met.

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