

Jo Joes (St Joseph's After School Club)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY347855

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Inspector Christine Stewart

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Registered person Jo Joes

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?

Jo Joes out of school club was registered in 2007. The club operates from rooms within St Joseph's RC Primary school, Prenton, Wirral. It is managed by a voluntary management committee, made up of staff from the school and members of the local community. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. There is currently 87 children on roll. The club is open Monday to Friday from 08.00 until 09.00 and from 15.30 until 18.00 during school term times. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The club serves children attending the primary school and other local primary schools.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children follow good hygiene practices because staff encourage them to wash their hands before eating. However, children do not always follow these simple procedures as they help themselves throughout the session to refreshments. Procedures are in place for children to receive appropriate care and attention in the event of an accident or if they are not well. These

include parental consents for emergency medical treatment, and a member of staff qualified in first aid is always on duty.

Children's health and well-being are fostered as the staff provide nutritious and substantial snacks. Children select from a range of fresh organic fruit, such as apples and plums, as well as having toast or cereal. Children are able to keep themselves hydrated as drinks are easily accessible. Their dietary needs are discussed with parents, recorded and respected at all times.

Children enjoy physical activity, such as rounders and football. They have the use of outdoor toys, such as skipping ropes and skittles. However, resources are not easily accessible or sufficient for all children to self select. They have full use of the school playground for outdoor activities to promote their physical well-being, keeping them fit and well.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an appropriately welcoming environment. Wall displays of school children's art work help to brighten and provide interest to the main hall. The toys and equipment provided are suitable for different ages and abilities, meeting children's needs appropriately. These resources are in place for children to choose from on arrival at the club. Children's independence and their ability to make choices could be further fostered by enabling them to self select resources from accessible storage units and cupboards. The equipment and resources are organised so that children can move round safely. Space is used to provide areas for table top activities and for floor based activities. However, children do not always have access to a quiet area where they can rest or play quietly without disturbance.

Satisfactory procedures are in place to protect children from hazards or dangers. Staff are aware of the risks to children relating to premises and procedures and take appropriate measures to protect children's safety. For example, all the children wear high visibility bibs as they form a walking bus for the transfer from local schools to the club. Children learn to protect their own safety as staff explain to them why no children are permitted to open the entrance door to the service; this must always be a task for the staff.

Children are protected as staff have a satisfactory knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and hold relevant contact numbers.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in the club. They have good relationships with staff and their peers which helps to promote their confidence and self-esteem. Children show interest and involvement in the activities provided. They concentrate as they plan and develop their 'friendship' books. They join in with enthusiasm the outdoor football match, learning to develop new physical skills and negotiate in team events. Children work well together as they play chess or as they share resources on the mats, developing their play cooperatively. Staff give appropriate support to children. They talk to children and give regular praise for children's efforts; this promotes children's confidence.

Children can have some contribution to the informal planning of activities, however, they expressed that they would like more of their suggestions incorporated into the session. The club has recently included the children in a questionnaire asking for their ideas and suggestions

for new resources and future activities, this will help children to feel valued and encourages their ownership of the club.

Children's communication skills are well supported through good quality adult-child interaction. Children are confident communicators, as they engage readily in conversations with each other, with the staff caring for them and also with visitors present. For example, children took great delight in describing in detail the events and activities they have participated in, at the out of school club.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff take care to ensure that all children are included. Activities are available to all children and staff encourage children to participate. There are few resources available to effectively develop children's understanding of differences in people and cultures in the wider community and around the world. Staff have a positive approach and give children plenty of praise and support for their efforts and achievements. As a result, children behave well.

Parents are provided with information about the club including details of some of the policies and procedures. Parents comments and opinions are valued and sought as the setting continues to look to ways to further improve the service they offer. Information from parents about children's needs and preferences are used appropriately to meet children's requirements. This communication between parents and staff helps to promote children's welfare, care and learning.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Qualified staff and staffing levels are organised to meet the required ratios at all times and to provide children with appropriate levels of support and attention. There is a recruitment procedure in place for the appointment of staff, this is to ensure that all the required checks are carried out.

Indoor space and resources are set out prior to children's arrival to offer them access to a variety of play experiences. Some opportunity exist for children to enjoy and explore creative experiences as they create their friendship bracelets and make friendship books. However, greater opportunity for children to express themselves and experience different mediums would enhance their play opportunities and enjoyment.

The required policies and procedures are in place, however, some need more detail to provide parents and staff with comprehensive and accurate information. For example, the complaints procedure does not explain Ofsted's role in this procedure, nor does it reflect the correct time for responding to complaints. Most records are in place, ensuring continuity of care for children and protecting their welfare. The legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is generally in place, however, the registration system does not include the details of the staff on duty and the accident book does not protect children's confidentiality.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 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):

- update the complaint procedure in line with legislation and ensure that this is shared with parents.
- develop resources that promote positive images of diversity, include greater opportunity for sensory and creative play, and review how activities and resources are offered to provide children with a greater choice of indoor and out door activities
- provide children with a quiet and comfortable area which they can use at every session
- include a registration system for staff and maintain confidentiality in all accident records

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