

# ACES Before & After School Club - Manor Primary

Inspection report for early years provision

---

**Unique Reference Number** 224871

**Inspection date** 26 September 2007

**Inspector** Olwen Pulker

**Setting Address** Ettingshall Road, Coseley, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV2 2RQ

**Telephone number** 07786364147

**E-mail**

**Registered person** Management Committee

**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](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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

ACES Before & After School Club is held in Manor Primary School. It opened in 1997 and operates mainly from a craft room within the school. The club serves the children from the school. A maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. The club operates each weekday during term time only. Sessions are from 15.00 to 18.00 daily. Children also have access to the school halls and outdoor play areas.

There are currently 37 children from four to 11 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

Four members of staff, two of whom are part-time, work with the children. All hold appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the local authority.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children learn about the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines. They wash their hands after going to the toilet and before eating snacks and meals. Staff hold current first aid certificates and written consents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment are available. Consequently, children's welfare is protected in the event of accidents or medical emergencies.

Children are provided with a range of snacks, such as biscuits, crisps and fruit for 'tuck'. They enjoy a baking activity once a week and are supported to prepare their own hot snack, such as beans on toast or toasted sandwiches. Fresh fruit or vegetables are available daily. Children have free access to drinking water and are provided with regular drinks throughout the session, particularly after engaging in physical exercise. Details of children's specific requirements or allergies are discussed with parents and recorded to ensure their dietary needs are met.

Children are able to keep fit and exercise through the opportunities provided for physical play in a well-resourced outdoor play area. There are climbing areas and a varied range of outdoor play equipment suitable for children of all ages.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in clean, well-maintained rooms within the school. Most activities, other than physical play, are undertaken in the well-organised craft room which provides sufficient space for children. However, there is no provision made for those wishing to relax quietly. They use a suitable range of safe, good quality, developmentally appropriate resources. These are well organised in low-level storage units provided by the school and safely located nearby in a corridor. Staff borrow resources from a toy library and also have access to school equipment to extend the choice of play material available to the children.

Children's safety is promoted by a good system for recording their attendance and the presence of visitors. Staff routinely carry out risk assessments of the premises, equipment and activities; children benefit from a range of safety measures which are in place, such as radiator guards, fire extinguishers and a secure outdoor play area. They develop a good awareness of safety issues through regularly practising emergency evacuation procedures.

Staff have attended a child protection training course and have a sound awareness of the procedures to follow if they had any concerns and know the relevant agencies to contact. As a result, children are protected from possible abuse or neglect and their welfare is safeguarded.

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

The provision is good.

Children are happy and confident in the club's welcoming environment. They enjoy participating in a suitable range of activities both indoors and outdoors which enables them to practise their skills and further develop their social relationships with their peers. They feel relaxed and comfortable with staff who often join in with their play, consistently and positively interacting with the children. Each term children are consulted about their preferences regarding activities

and additional resources and staff include the children's wishes in planning. Consequently, children gain much enjoyment from playing with toys and equipment of their choice. Activities provided are interesting and stimulating and children become constructively involved in adult-led craft activities, such as collage design and beadwork. Their achievements are acknowledged and appreciated by staff and are displayed where they can be viewed by parents and visitors. Children are able to make choices about what they do; most relish spending time outside involved in physical play or using the fixed structures in their role play as they become adventurers searching for treasure in shark-infested waters. Some of the older children prefer to spend time talking with staff especially when they play games on the computer. Staff also support children to use the computer to research topics relating to homework.

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

The provision is good.

Children develop a positive attitude to others and have developed effective relationships with staff and each other. They gain some understanding of different cultures through topics and planned activities. Play resources and equipment, such as puzzles, books and dolls reflect positive images of diversity. There are appropriate procedures in place to support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities as well as those who speak English as an additional language.

Children learn to take responsibility for their own safety and self care through careful explanation and understanding the group's rules. They share equipment fairly, enjoy playing together and behave well in response to the encouragement and praise they receive from staff.

Children's individual needs are suitably met, with friendly and informal partnerships with parents and school staff helping children to feel settled with familiar and trusted adults. Parents share in how their children are cared for through daily discussions and having access to information, such as the complaints procedures displayed within the setting.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are well protected because recruitment and vetting procedures in use are rigorous and robust. Staff are motivated and committed to improve and develop their knowledge and practice through regular and ongoing training. They work well as a team and are clear about their deployment and responsibilities.

Children are happy, comfortable and settled and their individual needs are met. Resources and activities are well planned and organised to allow children freedom of choice and opportunities to develop their own ideas and play. As a result, children feel secure and confident in a welcoming environment where their safety and welfare are promoted.

Comprehensive policies and procedures are in place, which has a positive impact on children's safety and well-being. Information is shared with parents to keep them well informed about the service.

The setting meets the need of the range of children for whom it provides.

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

At the last inspection, the nominated person agreed to ensure Ofsted is informed of any changes to management staff and ensure that fire drills are conducted at regular intervals with details recorded in a log book.

Both of these actions have been addressed and as a result, children's welfare is adequately promoted. The registered person has notified Ofsted of staffing changes and the evacuation procedures have been practised and recorded appropriately.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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):

- provide a comfortable quiet area for children wishing to rest or relax.

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)