



F-AB Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 403419
Inspection date 12 July 2005
Inspector Sally Ann Smith

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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?

F-AB Club first opened in 2001. It operates from two rooms within the Burntwood Memorial Institute. The club serves the local area including Burntwood and Gentleshaw. A maximum of 40 children may attend the club at any one time.

The group opens five days a week during school term times and school holidays. Sessions are from 07:45 to 08:45 and 15:30 to 18:00 during term time and from 08:00 to 18:00 during school holidays. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 70 children from 3 to 11 years on roll. The club supports a number of children with special educational needs.

The club employs six full time staff, five of whom have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn about the importance of exercise in contributing to a healthy lifestyle and they walk to and from school with staff. Children are able to take part in energetic play and enjoy their time outside playing football, cricket, rounders and other team games.

Children understand the importance of good personal hygiene through routines such as washing their hands before eating food. Very good procedures, such as staff consistently wearing disposable gloves and aprons and using appropriate implements when serving food, help to sustain high levels of hygiene in the setting and minimise the spread of infection. Staff also carry out half hourly checks of the toilets and basins to ensure they are clean.

Children benefit from a healthy diet and enjoy food which is well presented. They help to prepare snacks which encourages the children's independence and supports them in making choices. Children are discouraged from eating foods which contain high levels of sugars, salts and fats and advice is given to parents regarding the contents of lunch boxes to promote healthy eating. Children regularly and independently access drinking water and fruit juices.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are closely supervised by staff and access to and from the setting is carefully monitored. Children demonstrate a clear understanding of emergency evacuation procedures which are practiced regularly. They are able to identify the emergency exits and assembly points. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments and organise space to enable children to move freely and safely around the rooms.

Children learn about different safety issues through planned activities. They participate in the "Walking Bus" scheme which promotes safe walking to and from school. Older children understand that when walking they stay nearest to the kerb and partner a younger child. Children and staff participate in discussions which help children learn to take responsibility for their own safety. However, although staff demonstrate a very clear understanding of what to do in the event of a child getting lost, there are no written procedures.

Children's welfare is well protected because staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities in protection procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual skills are effectively promoted because they participate in a range of purposeful activities to meet their needs. There are planned and free play activities both inside and outside to ensure that children have different play opportunities. Space and resources are well organised to provide children with a mix of active and rest times. Although the room is very large some activities are arranged in the centre of the room, which create natural pathways around them and prevent children from running.

Children are able to select art and craft activities such as paint, clay, chalks, gluing and other messy play. A variety of board and table top games are available and children enjoy making up their own games. Children make very good use of the homework club where staff provide regular help and support. In addition, children are able to select an activity of their choice to initiate their own play. Children are involved in activity planning and have their own "suggestion book" for thoughts and ideas. Staff are exploring ways in which materials such as paper and bottles can be recycled in response to one child's suggestion. Children happily engage staff in conversation and are relaxed in their company, talking about what they have done and asking questions.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children play together cooperatively, sharing and taking turns with toys and equipment. Staff are consistent in dealing with children's behaviour and encourage children to negotiate when they want to play with a particular toy or be involved in a team game. Children understand the boundaries and routines both inside and outside the setting and they are involved in devising the club rules. Children put their names alongside their respective rule which help them to respond positively in all areas of their play. They are taught to understand the effect their behaviour has on others, for example, "how would you feel if someone did that to you." Children are given praise and good behaviour is reinforced. They are given responsibilities such as helping to give out snacks to encourage good behaviour.

Children learn about different cultures and the world around them. They are involved in planned activities to look at different foods and people from around the world, although resources reflecting positive images of race, culture and disability are limited. All children make use of the resources available and activities are adapted to meet the individual needs of the child.

Comprehensive information about each child is obtained from their parents to enable staff to provide appropriate care. Staff liaise with parents on a regular basis both

verbally and through display boards and newsletters. Parents' comments and suggestions are welcomed and they have access to the setting's policies and procedures.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from activities which are planned and organised to meet their individual needs and provide a variety of different play opportunities. Space is organised to allow for quiet and more energetic and physical play providing children with choices. Appropriate adult and child ratios are maintained to support children's care and play.

Effective policies and procedures are used to promote the care and welfare of the children and keep parents informed, although there are no written procedures if a child is lost. Staff establish positive working relationships with parents to enable appropriate care to be provided for the children.

Staff attend training courses to update and improve their knowledge and regularly meet together to consolidate their understanding of practice issues. Staff work together well to provide a consistent and supportive environment for the children.

Overall, the needs of all the children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, staff were required to obtain prior written consent from parents for administering medication. Written consent is now obtained and recorded on the children's registration information. Staff complete details of medication administered, specifying dosage, times and dates and parents sign to acknowledge this.

Staff were required to meet the needs of individual children regarding their interest in daily activities and children are now involved in activity planning to ensure their interests and preferences are accounted for. Children are also able to choose any activities or resources independently to initiate their own play. Staff ensure that children are involved in their play and provide varied activities. They listen to children's likes and dislikes to aid future planning.

Staff were required to access a range of resources that promote equality of opportunity but these are still limited. Staff have however included different activities into their routine such as food tasting and now purchase a variety of different fruits such as kiwi, mango and pineapple for children to eat at snack times. Children also have themed activities such as looking at different people from around the world and explore their country of origin. They look at the culture, food, clothes and way of life. Staff acknowledge that they can further improve positive images within the setting and they need to increase the resources available to the children.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- develop written procedures for lost children
- further increase resources to reflect positive images of race, culture, gender and disability.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk