

# ACES Lanesfield Asc

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique Reference Number** EY317855

**Inspection date** 05 September 2007

**Inspector** Patricia Dawes

**Setting Address** Lanesfield Primary School, Newman Avenue, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV4 6BZ

**Telephone number** 01902 558950

**E-mail**

**Registered person** A.C.E.S.

**Type of inspection** Childcare

**Type of 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 Lanesfield Out of School Club is one of three clubs run by a private organisation, which opened in 2006. It operates from a demountable building within the grounds of a primary school in Lanesfield, Wolverhampton. The club serves children and families from the local community. The club is open each weekday from 07.30 to 08.45 and 15.15 to 18.00 during term-time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. There are currently 14 children from four to under eight on roll. The club's admissions policy allows for children up to the age of 12 years to attend. The group currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs three members of staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is working towards a qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted as they become proficient in their own personal care routines because staff support and guide children during daily routines, such as, washing their hands before snacks and after using the toilet or messy play. Effective systems are in place to maintain the premises and resources to a good standard of cleanliness. Written policies and records are available which clearly demonstrate how hygiene and health standards are maintained within the group. Children are cared for appropriately, if they become unwell and written, parental consent is in place to enable staff to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. Staff who hold current first aid certificates manage accidents effectively. All of this good practice ensures children's health and general well-being is protected.

Children are able to help themselves to drinking water throughout the session ensuring they remain hydrated. Snacks are available during the sessions from the 'tuck' box or foods the children have made during an activity. A selection of fresh fruit is also available. Children sit together with staff and take pleasure in developing their social skills. Details of children's specific requirements or allergies are discussed with parents and recorded to their dietary needs are met.

Children's physical development is well supported, as they know when they need a drink or a rest. They have daily opportunities to use the static equipment outdoors or soft play indoors, play football, or take part in team games weather permitting. All of this contributes well to developing a healthy lifestyle.

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

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a safe secure environment in which to play. They are familiar with the staff and building and able to practice what they can do in safe surroundings and learn some sense of danger; Risks of injuries to children are minimised because staff are consistently attentive; however, hazards such as, the location of the soft play equipment are not effectively addressed. This has the potential to compromise children's safety. Children learn about safe practices as adults explain about group rules. They know and comply with safety and care routines including practising fire safety routines.

Children use high quality equipment appropriate to their age and stage of development. It is easily accessible, checked thoroughly to ensure it meets safety requirements and cleaned regularly. All children have equal access to resources, which are not restricted.

Children are well protected by staff that have a clear understanding of all aspects of child protection. Comprehensive and effective policies and procedures are in place to promote children's welfare; Regular communication with parents contributes to children's safety.

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

The provision is good.

Children's needs are met and their welfare is promoted by staff who have a good understanding of child development. Staff know children's interests and actively seeks opinions and ideas to

provide a variety of play opportunities that offer suitable levels of challenge for all children attending.

Staff and children have a relaxed relationship and relate well to each other. They eagerly initiate conversations with staff and talk with enthusiasm about what they have done during their school day. Children are encouraged to use their initiative and behave well. They enjoy all activities, have fun, play imaginatively, and produce creative artwork, which is displayed around the room. For example, project on holiday destinations and the artist Picasso.

Children's confidence and self-esteem are boosted by the skilful interaction of the staff that are positive and respectful to all children and value what each child has to offer. They offer praise and encouragement to children as they sign themselves into the group. Older children play as a group with younger children, which displays a happy settled atmosphere.

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

The provision is good.

All children are made thoroughly welcome, valued and included in every aspect of the daily routine. Staff have a high regard for each child's individual needs and ensure their time is spent purposefully. Children are able to make choices in their play, which ensures that they are interested in what they do. Activities are meaningful, stimulating and fun and provide children with ample opportunities to learn about themselves and others in the wider community. Children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and who speak English as an additional language are offered appropriate support and guidance as staff liaise closely with the school and parents.

Clear boundaries and the positive role models set by the staff encourage children's understanding of the difference between right and wrong. Written policies and effective strategies are in place, which are reinforced through daily routines and practices, such as, showing care and consideration for others and helping to tidy away toys after use. Regular discussions and maintaining incident recordings support consistency. As a result, children's behaviour is well managed.

Children's individual needs are well met because staff are positive, professional and friendly. There are good systems in place to develop positive relationships with parents to encourage involvement and information sharing. Parents receive information regarding the policies and procedures of the club from the notice board, parents' handbook and regular newsletters. This has a positive impact on children's needs being effectively met through parents' wishes being respected.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are well protected because recruitment and vetting procedures in use are rigorous and robust. Staff employed at the setting have a sound knowledge and understanding of child development. They 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. The manager ensures there are the required levels of qualified staff working with all children.

Children are happy, comfortable and settled and their individual needs are met. Appropriate organisation of routines, space, 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 warm and 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. Most documentation is regularly reviewed and updated; however, the staff records folder on site has not been up-dated, although there are plans in place to address this. 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 previous inspection, the nominated person agreed to ensure Ofsted is informed of any changes to the person in charge and any other significant changes and ensure the accident records contain sufficient detail and that the use of preparations such as sun creams or lotions meet the needs and preferences of children and their parents.

The registered person has notified Ofsted of staffing changes and the appropriate procedures have been followed. Staff ensures all accident records now contain detailed information and written parental permission is sought with regarding to the use of sun creams and lotions. Both of these actions have been addressed and as a result, children's welfare is adequately promoted.

### **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):

- assess the risks to children in relation to the soft play equipment and take action to minimise these
- ensure that all staff records are readily accessible and available for inspection at all 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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)