

Kings Heath Community Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY274706

Inspection date 02 November 2007

Inspector Angela Dyer

Setting Address Heathfield Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, West Midlands, B14 7DB

Telephone number

E-mail

Registered person Kings Heath Playcare

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?

Kings Heath Community Centre Out of School Club is one of two settings managed by Kings Heath Playcare which is a voluntary management committee made up from parents of children attending the setting and members of the community. The out-of-school club registered in 2004 and operates from Kings Heath, Community Centre, Birmingham and serves children from Kings Heath Primary School.

Facilities include a playroom, sports hall, smaller activity room, kitchen, toilets and an enclosed outdoor play area. The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 15:20 to 18:00.

There are currently 66 children aged from seven to 11 years on roll. The setting has procedures in place to support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and children who speak English as an additional language.

There are four staff who work with the children, three of whom have early years and playwork qualifications. The club has attained the Aiming High quality accreditation at Level 2.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are learning the importance of good hygiene as they are reminded by staff to wash their hands after using the toilet and before tea time. Children have independent access to good quality hand washing facilities throughout the session where they use hand dryers to reduce the risk of cross infections.

Staff have a good understanding of the needs of the children attending the setting and are proactive in undertaking training in relation to meeting specific health needs, including, the use of epi-pens and asthma awareness. Staff have completed first aid training and have access to basic first aid equipment in order for them to deal with minor accidents effectively. However, accident records are not always signed by parents, therefore potentially compromising children's welfare.

Staff are committed to providing healthy food for children, and the menus, which children are consulted about, are healthy, nutritious and appetising. Details of children's dietary needs are recorded and children enjoy meals including, bread, cheese, carrot sticks, tomatoes, Indian snacks and jacket potatoes. Children are able to help themselves to drinks throughout the session, to ensure they remain hydrated.

Children enjoy a wide range of physical activities both in the outside play area and spacious hall. Children participate in team games in the hall including football, whilst other children have great fun creating dens in the low-level bushes outside by putting the fallen leaves back onto the bushes to create a cover for them to hide under.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children have access to two rooms within the community centre, including, a spacious hall and a small outside play area. The setting is appropriately maintained, bright and spacious. Children of all ages are met by staff in the school playground and escorted to the club. Access into the building is closely monitored and children are supervised at all times to ensure their safety.

Children are reminded about simple safety rules through lively discussions and activities. The fire evacuation procedures are clearly displayed and children have opportunities to practise the drill to reinforce their understanding of the actions required in the event of an emergency. Staff complete daily risk assessments, which are effective in identifying and reducing risks to children.

Children are well protected because staff have a professional understanding of the child protection procedures and are aware of their roles and responsibilities to protect the children in their care. Staff know how to recognise the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect and are confident about when to put the appropriate procedures into practice. There is a clear well written policy in place which is shared with parents and staff on induction.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time in the club and are happy and settled benefiting from staff being friendly and welcoming. Children complete an 'all about me' document on admission to share with staff their likes and interests, as a result, staff demonstrate a very good understanding of the children they are caring for. Staff interact positively with the children and show enjoyment in their company as they join in with activities. Children are consulted about what they want to do throughout their time at the club and are provided with the opportunity to write their suggestions onto slips for staff to consider.

On arrival many children relax and unwind, chatting among themselves and catching up with their friends from other classes. Children participate in activities including cooking, football, outside play and arts and crafts. Through discussion children shared that they enjoyed coming to the club as found the staff to be friendly, many children also said that they liked having access to the outside area and the freedom this gave them in developing their own games and ideas.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children in the club are happy, settled and confident in expressing their needs and preferences. Children are treated and respected as individuals and staff meet their needs appropriately. They have good opportunities to learn about themselves and others through planned and spontaneous activities. This contributes to the development of their awareness of the wider world and the diversity of society as they engage in various activities to look at equality issues and celebrate festivals. Staff are knowledgeable in how to include and appropriately care for children with identified learning difficulties and/or disabilities and demonstrate an understanding of the importance of working in collaboration with parents and other professionals to meet children's needs.

Staff implement a calm and consistent approach to managing children's behaviour. Children's behaviour is good and they are learning to negotiate and compromise as staff give them time and space to try and sort out any disagreements for themselves, dependent on age and levels of maturity.

Staff encourage positive partnerships with parents. They make time to talk to parents about what their child has been doing, as well as passing on messages from school. Parents have access to the clubs policies and procedures and the notice board and newsletters contain other useful information. Parents' views and concerns are respected and acknowledged and they know how to raise a complaint or concern on behalf of their children if they wish to.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment by experienced and friendly staff, with whom they have established positive relationships with. Effective recruitment procedures ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified and the deployment of staff ensures that children are well supervised at all times. Overall, children's needs are met.

Children's health and welfare are promoted through well written policies and procedures held by the club. Children's records and other documentation are stored securely in order to maintain confidentiality. Staff are pro-active in identifying the clubs strengths and weaknesses and regularly evaluate and monitor the quality of their care using questionnaires completed by both children and parents.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was asked to improve documentation in relation to the administration of medication and staff records. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of the records that are required and have introduced a new recording system to ensure that when children are on medication their individual needs are fully met. All staff now have their own individual files which are readily available in an emergency or for inspection and stored in a secure and confidential manner.

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):

- ensure all accident records are signed by parents.

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