



Kids Club Ely and Breakfast Buddies

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY295332
Inspection date	15 August 2005
Inspector	Susan Patricia Foulger
Setting Address	Ely St. Johns Community Room, St Johns Road, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB6 3BW
Telephone number	07833 680415
E-mail	
Registered person	Kids Club Ely and Breakfast Buddies
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?

Kids Club Ely runs a breakfast club, out of school club and holiday play scheme. In the present set up it opened in 2004 and operates from the community room of St John's School during term time and in the school during the summer holiday play scheme.

A maximum of 48 children attend the play scheme in the school, or 24 children when using the Community Room.

While in the Community Room, the club have use of a large enclosed garden with a

built in soft play surface for outside play. During the summer play scheme, the club uses the outside playground and school field. It is open from 08.30 to 18.00.

The club operates all year round. The club employs up to 18 staff. Most of the staff have, or are working towards, early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health and well-being is generally safeguarded while they attend the club and they are protected from the risks of cross-infection by appropriate hygiene procedures. For example, the children know to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating.

Appropriate procedures and documents are in place to ensure children's individual dietary and medical needs are met, for example all medical consents are obtained from parents and most staff hold first aid certificates.

Children's physical health is promoted through frequent use of the outside play area where they have opportunities for group and individual activities such as organised games and the use of the school's outdoor climbing and balancing equipment. However, because the children spend long periods outside during the day and because the use of skin block and sunhats cannot always be enforced if the parents do not supply them, the danger to the children through exposure to strong sunlight over prolonged periods could adversely affect their physical health in the long term.

Children enjoy a variety of nutritional snacks and individual dietary needs and allergies are well documented and easily accessed so their health is protected.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean and welcoming environment; they are able to move around freely and safely in the spacious hall and large outside area that is used. Children's safety is enhanced by effective procedures, especially outside where the area is not entirely secure. For example, children understand the limits of the perimeters of the play area and staff are sited at either side of the school building so that children cannot leave without being seen. Children are repeatedly counted so that any absentees can be identified immediately.

Children are offered a wide selection of appropriate toys and equipment which are safe to use, although a piece of the school equipment outside is broken. It has been taped off and children are warned not to use it.

Children are supervised well because staff are always effectively deployed. Although there was no written fire drill procedure displayed, the manager recognised the

omission and devised one later in the day. However, if fire broke out there is a potential danger to the children if they are not well rehearsed in the drill.

Children are protected and kept safe from harm as the staff have a satisfactory knowledge of child protection procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy coming to the club and parents and children report favourably about the activities they are offered. Children over eight can use a separate classroom where toys and equipment are aimed specifically at their age group. They can also move freely into the hall to take advantage of the other activities there.

Children's individual needs are met through the wide choice of toys and activities available to them which suits all age groups. For example, junk modelling is very popular and the children gain a sense of satisfaction and pleasure from creating some imaginative models. Much of the day is made up of free play, but children are also offered organised planned activities to expand their interest and prevent them from becoming bored.

Although the children are not taken out from the club, a large number of visitors are invited to extend the children's experiences. For example, the children were invited to take part in a drum workshop and photographs show how much they enjoyed it.

In spite of the fact that many children only attend for a short time during the summer holiday, they are happy and settled in the club and they benefit from the positive interaction with all the staff, which develops their confidence and self-esteem.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

There are resources offering equal opportunities to all the children, especially there is a good selection of resources reflecting positive images of culture, gender, disability and ethnicity.

Children with special needs are made welcome in the club where staff have experience and understanding which they can draw on to support them. Their individual needs are recognised and children gain from the one to one attention they are given. The club welcomes effective support from the out of school club special needs coordinator and the children gain from positive interactions with other children and staff.

Children generally behave well because they have an understanding of the rules for good behaviour. In the morning group session when the children first arrive they are informed of the rules governing the club and if they break them on occasion, then clear explanations are given and sanctions imposed if necessary. Praise and encouragement is used in equal measure which allows other children to see the

contrasts between good and bad behaviour. This means that they can feel safe and secure in a well ordered provision where the staff always behave consistently towards them.

Relationships with parents are satisfactory. They are kept informed of the day to day organisation through the notice board which displays the weekly activities and the timetable of the day. They receive occasional newsletters and there are various information leaflets available although some of these are in short supply.

Some parents work and others do not want to be involved in the club on a day to day basis. However, they value the club highly. Children gain from their parents' trust in the club which adds to their feelings of security and confidence.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a system of ensuring staff working with children are vetted but the club do not always notify Ofsted of the changes in the staff.

Children experience an enjoyable, productive and happy time when they attend the club because the club always meets the required adult-child ratios, ensures that training and qualification requirements are met and that space and resources are well organised. In addition, staff are well deployed both inside and outside and children are divided into age groups and allocated a specific member of staff each day which adds to the children's feeling of security.

The children's welfare and safety is generally supported by the setting's policies and procedures but these have not been updated since the club became privately run in 2004. This does not present any risk to the children but is reflective of the sometimes disorganised paperwork. However, all the required regulatory documents are on site and the certificate of registration is displayed on the notice board.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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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 that children are protected from direct sunlight through the use of sun hats and sun block
- ensure that Ofsted is always notified of any changes in staff when they are appointed or leave.
- ensure that the fire drill is practised on a regular basis
- ensure that all policies and procedures are in place and up to date.

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