

# South Farnham School Child Care Scheme

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	120208
<b>Inspection date</b>	19 September 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Anne Mitchell
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<b>Registered person</b>	South Farnham School Services LTD
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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?

South Farnham School Child Care Scheme has been running since 1995. It operates within South Farnham School and provides after school care for children attending the school. It is registered for 26 children between seven and 11 years of age. The total number of children on roll varies.

The out of school club is open Monday to Friday from 15:30 to 18:00 during term-time only. Children have the use of the Castle Room and the adjacent library, as well as an outside play area. There are toilet and kitchen facilities nearby.

The scheme is managed by South Farnham Company. Four members of staff work directly with children on a rota basis, all of whom have appropriate qualifications or experience.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is effectively promoted in most areas. Cleaning staff ensure the premises are well maintained. Children are provided with drinking water throughout the session to ensure

they are well hydrated, and snacks are healthy, comprising of a variety of fresh fruit. Children's dietary needs are recorded and respected. Children are able to access their school lunch boxes for additional food if required. They demonstrate a good understanding of healthy lifestyles, and know the importance of healthy eating.

Children can be treated promptly in the event of an accident because at least one member of staff working with the children holds a current first aid certificate. A first aid kit is available in the setting and on the field during outdoor play. Children follow suitable hygiene routines, washing their hands after visiting the toilet and are fully independent in their personal care. However, staff are not pro-active in encouraging children to wash their hands before snack, consequently children's health is compromised at this time.

Children have good opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They enjoy outdoor activities on a daily basis, either as part of the out of school club or through many of the school's extra curricular activities.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in secure and safe school premises. Children are signed in and out of the out of school club to ensure staff are aware of who is present at all times. Visitors are signed in and monitored throughout. Children are very aware of the school rules and follow them well to keep themselves safe. Staff reinforce safety procedures with the children before they enjoy a treasure hunt in the school grounds, for example.

Children are encouraged to promote their own safety in the classroom, to sit sensibly on their chairs and pick up toys on the floor to prevent a tripping hazard. Clear policies and procedures are followed to promote children's health and safety. Additional school staff are always on the premises while the out of school club is in session to further promote children's safety.

Children are well protected from harm and neglect through the schools rigorous child protection procedures. Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of possible signs and symptoms of abuse and have a clear understanding of the appropriate procedures to follow in the event of concerns being noted.

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

The provision is good.

Children are very happy and demonstrate high levels of confidence and self esteem. Interesting and absorbing activities are planned for the children to enjoy after their school day, to help them relax and have fun. As they gather together after school they participate in an outdoor treasure hunt. In teams, they search the school field for items such as acorns, berries and the longest blade of grass. Back in the out of school club classroom, they enjoy being creative. They draw and cut out crabs, fish, seahorses, treasure chests and ship wrecks for their seascape wall display. Some children use their imaginations and draw freehand, others copy the computer display, showing stills and video clips of sea creatures including the blue whale.

Children enjoy choosing board games and staff participate with enthusiasm in their play. Staff plan termly themes and base activities around these. Children have designed a potato recipe book, creating and illustrating a variety of potato recipes. Children have opportunities to complete homework quietly if they wish. They are able to choose from games, activities and

creative resources freely. They have access to school equipment, such as books from the library and the computer to extend their interests further. Children state that they enjoy attending the club and find it relaxing and fun.

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

The provision is good.

Children are happy and settled in this environment. The out of school club is held within the school they attend and staffed with adults they are familiar with. Children therefore demonstrate a clear sense of belonging. Staff follow the school's equal opportunities policy and there are some resources and activities, such as books and cooking activities which help children learn about the wider world.

Children's behaviour is very good. They are polite and well mannered to adults and to each other. One child asks a visitor 'Would you like to see what I am doing?' Another draws a picture with the message 'I hope you like our school'. Children take turns and help each other. They have developed good relationships with one another and the 'buddy system' used throughout the school helps new children to settle quickly. Staff are good role models for children's behaviour, praising their achievements and thanking them for their help.

Staff liaise closely with parents who state they are happy with the level of care and communication provided.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

There are secure systems in place to ensure children are cared for by suitable adults as the school has rigorous procedures for the recruitment and employment of all staff.

All required documentation is kept securely within the school. The out of school club follows the school's policies and procedures to promote children's health and wellbeing. However, procedures to promote children's hand hygiene are not always effective.

Children who attend the out of school club have access to school equipment and resources. Space is used effectively to ensure the needs of the children are successfully met, with a good balance of outdoor and indoor activities provided. Play activities and resources for creative play are available for children to choose and they have options to relax after school or complete their homework.

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

At the last inspection the registered person agreed to ensure that children are provided with nutritious drinks and snacks which comply with any special dietary or religious requirements. They also agreed to ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities that promote different cultures and customs.

Children are now provided with a variety of fresh fruit at snack time, and drinking water is available throughout the session. Resources and activities such as books and food preparation help children learn about the wider world.

### **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):

- continue to promote children's health by ensuring they are encouraged to improve their hand hygiene routines throughout the session

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)