

Holmesdale Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	206262
Inspection date	11 October 2007
Inspector	Karen Ann Byfleet
Setting Address	c/o Holmesdale Infant School, The Avenue, Dronfield, Derbyshire, S18 2LR
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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?

Holmesdale Kids Club operates from Holmesdale Infant School which is situated in the town of Dronfield in North Derbyshire. The out of school club uses the kids club room, dining room and two outside enclosed play areas. The club provides childcare for Holmesdale Infant school and surrounding primary schools located in the area.

It is registered to care for 40 children aged from three to eight years. However, this provision offers places for children from four years who are in attendance at full-time school. The provision also offers places to children aged eight to 11 years. There are currently 124 children from four to 11 years on roll and of these 43 are under eight years.

The provision opens five days a week during school-term. Sessions are from 07:45 to 09:00 and 15:00 to 18:00. The provision is also open during school holidays with sessions from 07:45 to 18:00. The children attend for a variety of sessions and the setting currently supports six children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

The provision is run by a committee. Fifteen staff work with the children in both the after school club and the holiday club and of these, eight hold relevant childcare qualifications. It has a quality assurance system in place and they receive support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children follow good hygiene procedures with regard to hand washing before eating and after using the bathroom. Clear procedures are followed to promote children's health and reduce risk of illness. For example, staff clean tables before and after children sit to eat. Sound procedures are in place to keep children safe in the event of an accident. Staff record accidents and these are signed by parents and all staff hold relevant first aid certificates, enhancing children's welfare.

Children have regular opportunities for outside play, which helps them develop a positive approach to physical exercise. They enjoy organised games, such as tennis and football, which help to promote their strength and coordination.

Children are offered healthy, nutritious snacks which promote their growth and development. They are independent as they prepare their own snacks. For example, they butter their bread or toast and select from a range of healthy fillings, such as, cheese, marmite or ham. Other snacks include fresh fruit, cereal bars, crackers and cucumber. Children are kept refreshed and hydrated because they have access to fresh drinking water throughout the session. The children's dietary requirements are met well as staff work with parents in finding out children's requirements and respectfully follow these.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment. They have access to the dining hall and a designated classroom. There is sufficient space for children to move about safely and play in comfort. Activities are set out before children arrive and these include table top games and activities such as small world play, jigsaws and construction. A video games console is also available with suitable games. Children can change activities throughout the session as they wish. Equipment is safe and meets the needs of children attending.

Staff take positive steps to ensure children are kept safe within the setting. For example, the doors are kept locked to prevent children leaving unattended and by ensuring children are supervised at all times. Children develop a good understanding about safety in the setting. They know not to open the front door and are aware of boundaries when playing outdoors. Regular fire drills ensure children know what to do in the event of an emergency. Children's safety is further promoted as the setting's policy for lost or uncollected children has been reviewed and implemented and staff ensure children leave with a known adult.

Staff are aware of their responsibilities to the children in their care and have a sound knowledge of child protection. Staff have all the relevant information and contact details if they are concerned about a child's safety, which means children are protected from harm.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and confident in the setting. The relaxed atmosphere enables them to settle quickly. They are familiar with the supportive staff team and clearly enjoy each other's company

as they confidently chat to their friends and ask staff to join in their freely chosen activities. All children are purposefully occupied and some are reluctant to leave when their parents come to collect them. Staff plan a wide range of worthwhile stimulating activities and children are included in the planning process as staff ask for their ideas and suggestions for future activities. This ensures their individual needs and interest are well catered for. The children have a good awareness of taking turns and show respect for their friends. They wait patiently for their turn as they play cooperatively with all the games and resources.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are well behaved and considerate to each other. They learn to be responsible and to be a constructive member of a team, organising, sharing and taking turns. Staff are good role models, using please and thank you to children. They praise and encourage children's efforts and achievements, which helps promote their self-esteem and confidence. Children are encouraged to be independent in most areas such as serving themselves at snack time and freely choosing activities. However, children's independence is not fully implemented as they are not always given the opportunity to pour out their own drinks at snack time. The children are involved in deciding and implementing the ground rules, which are displayed for them to revisit. Children are encouraged to resolve minor conflicts themselves which means they take responsibility for their actions and behaviour.

Children are expanding their awareness of the wider world through the activities and resources on offer. There is a good range of resources that promote equality of opportunity, which helps children learn about the wider world and develop a positive attitude towards others. Parents are warmly greeted, and chats with staff at the end of the day keep them informed about their children. The setting provides care for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Staff are aware of children's individual needs and plan activities to ensure inclusion for all children attending. There is good liaison between staff, parents, the schools and other outside agencies. Information is shared to ensure continuity and consistency of care.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Organisation of space, time and resources is good which provides positive outcomes for children. They are settled and familiar with the routine and clearly enjoy their time at the club as they play happily with their peers. Staff provide a secure place for children to play where they are relaxed and happy. Staff are supportive of all the children and offer lots of praise and encouragement, helping children to feel secure and confident. There are effective procedures in place to ensure staff working with children are suitable which maintains the safety and welfare of children.

Space is well-organised enabling children to participate in a full range of activities. The required policies and procedures are in place and most documentation is maintained. However, the system for obtaining written permission from parents for staff to administer medication is not fully robust. Confidentiality is well maintained through the use of lockable cabinets and attendance records for children and staff are accurately maintained. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was asked to; develop policies and procedures around complaints, lost or uncollected children, admissions and medication. They were also asked to; provide and implement a key worker system, develop information with regard to transporting children in a vehicle and ensure that children had access to an appropriate range of resources which promote equality of opportunity.

All policies and procedures have been reviewed and updated to ensure they contain the relevant information. However, the complaints procedure continues to need further improvement as it does not contain the correct information for parents with regard to the contact details of the regulator. With regard to the transportation of children in vehicles. This no longer happens as all children are escorted by staff on foot from the nearby primary schools. Although a more secure medication policy has been implemented, further work is needed to ensure the system for obtaining written parental permission for staff to administer medication to children is more robust. Therefore ensuring children's health is protected. Children attending the holiday club are now appointed a key worker. The implementation of this policy ensures children's well-being is effectively monitored. A range of appropriate resources and activities are now planned and provided to ensure all children have equality of opportunity to access them.

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):

- provide more opportunities for children to independent with regard to pouring out their own drinks
- ensure Ofsted contact details are entered correctly in the complaints procedure
- devise and implement a more secure system for ensuring written permission from parents for staff to administer any medication is implemented.

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