

# St John's Schools Out

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	315912
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<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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St John's Schools Out Kids Club opened in 1999. It is in the Bromley Cross area of Bolton and is one of three clubs run by Schools Out Kids Clubs Limited. It operates in a primary school, using the main hall and associated facilities. All children share access to the school's outdoor play areas.

A maximum of 32 children may attend at any one time and there are currently 54 children on roll.

The club is open each weekday from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.30 to 18.00 during term time.

The facility employs five staff, of whom three hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Consideration is given to cleanliness, hand washing is part of the daily routine and children are reminded to wash their hands before sitting down to their tea. The toilets in use by the children are clean and stocked with suitable toiletries. Children's health is supported as parents give written details about medicine administration. Recording of accidents is taking place. Staff do not hold a current first aid training certificate. This fails to meet the National Standards for out of school care.

Children improve their physical ability as staff make a range of resources available to them that promote small and large muscle development. For instance, indoors, children use colouring pens, small piece jigsaws and board games. In outside play staff encourage children to be active. They join skipping ropes together and members of staff holds the ends. The children then take turns to run in and out of a skipping game. Children also enjoy the use of scooters, balls and skate boards.

Children's dietary needs are made known to staff as parents note if there is a specific requirement. The menu available to parents evidences that healthy option meals are on offer, for instance cheese and pasta bake. Children develop an understanding about healthy eating as staff talk to them about their tea. Children's needs for a drink are given due consideration. They know they can ask for a drink if they are thirsty and a jug of cordial is available throughout the meal time. Staff create a relaxed atmosphere and the children sit with their friends to enjoy soup and bread roll followed by an apple and a yoghurt.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff keep children safe in their care. The school premises are locked, with a bell entry system. Staff ask visitors for identity, escort them onto the premises and ask them to sign in. They allow persons known to them into the provision to collect their child at the end of the session. Parents sign their child out of the club or staff note that the child has left their care.

Children play in the school hall with easy access to the toilet facility and direct access to outside play. Their safety is supported as there are written risk assessments of the premises and resources, with control measures noted. Fire drills are carried out. However, written records do not evidence that these are undertaken on a regular basis, as they are not always recorded.

Children have choice where to play and move freely and with confidence. Staff supervise their choice of activity and are happy to join in a game. Staff monitor the presentation of play materials to provide for children's interests and to support children's developing abilities, for instance, small piece jigsaws.

Children's welfare is safeguarded as staff have knowledge of the signs and symptoms of neglect and are aware of their role in child protection issues. Policies and procedures are in evidence and the provider is fully aware of how to put the procedures into practice. Parents are made aware of the role of the staff through the written information available in the parents handbook.

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

The provision is good.

Children settle easily in the room and are very friendly towards each other and to the staff. They make their own decisions whether to play alone or in a small group. They have the opportunity and free choice to play indoors or outside. Their self-esteem is raised as the staff give praise when a new skill is managed, for instance, in the use of skipping ropes or riding a scooter. Children develop their concentration span and artistic ability well as they sit with appropriate drawing materials to create their own pictures. They are happy to share board games and remind each other of the rules of the game.

Children use their imaginations as they share the resources, for instance, some tie ropes around a tree and create their own story line. Others use the climbing equipment for an imaginary game. Children rapidly develop their conversational language and are confident speakers. This is due to staff using age appropriate language, asking questions and listening to the children's response.

Children decide upon the rules of their own games, for instance, in the number of turns when using a ball and the basketball stand, before passing the ball to the next child. Staff give constant but not overwhelming supervision. They create a friendly, relaxed and supportive atmosphere in which children thoroughly enjoy the activities on offer.

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

The provision is good.

Children's needs are very well supported as they take part in a care routine agreed between staff at the provision and the parents. All children are very welcome in the provision and the provider is pro-active in securing additional information or training for staff where a child has a specific need. There is a key worker system for new children. Staff set up an individual recording file to note a child's settling in process and shares this information with the parents. Staff treat each child with care and respect and are good role models. They speak politely to each other and to the children. Staff promote children's social skills and take the time to listen to their conversation and respond to queries.

Children access suitable, age appropriate resources that promote sharing and decision making, for instance, a counting game involving dice. Planning takes into account different cultural celebrations, such as the Festival of light, Hanukkah and Christmas and children use creative skills whilst listening and learning about a different culture.

Children's care and well-being is very well promoted. Parents note relevant information about their child to enable appropriate care to be given. There are arrangements in place for staff and parents to exchange information about a child when the child is brought or collected. Partnership with parents is enhanced by the provider making herself available to talk to parents and invite their comments and suggestions about the facility. Also, in the informative handbook available to them and in the friendly approach by the staff when parents come to collect their child.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Effective recruitment procedures are in place to ensure staff are vetted and have the skills to work with children. An induction process for staff informs them of the routine, policies and procedures of the club. Children's welfare and all round development is supported. Children are secure and at ease in the organised play environment. Staff work well together and ensure children are supervised at all times. This allows children to move freely between indoor and outside play.

The provider is often present at the club and twice a year actively seeks out and writes a short report on the opinions and comments of parents, staff and the children. The findings are used to plan for the future, for instance, the provision of additional resources. Documentation is held in line with the National Standards for out of school care and used to support the care and learning of children. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the provider was asked to ensure that documentation, relating to policies, is kept up to date. This has been addressed, current policies and procedures are in place and partnership with parents is promoted as copies are made available in the parental handbook.

## **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 satisfactory. 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):

- review planning and ensure a member of staff with a current first aid training certificate is on the premises at any one time
- record fire drill practice.

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)