

Rothley Childcare Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY259987
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Inspector	Alexandra Brouder
Setting Address	Village Hall, Fowke Street, Rothley, Leicester, Leicestershire, LE7 7PJ
Telephone number	0779 6383725
E-mail	kevinosborne788@btinternet.com
Registered person	Kaleidoscope In Action
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?

Rothley Childcare Club is one of a number of Day Care provisions run by Kaleidoscope in Action in the East Midlands, which is a Social Enterprise Community Organisation. It registered in 2003 and operates predominantly from the first floor room in the centrally located village hall, but also has access to a first floor room, kitchen and toilets. There is an enclosed outside play space at the nearby primary school. The club serves the local community.

The club is registered to care for a maximum of 32 children under eight years of age at any one time. There are currently 52 children on roll between the ages of four up to eleven years, of these 25 are under eight. Children attend a variety of sessions. The club is open Monday to Friday, from 08:00 to 08:50 and 15:00 to 18:00, during term time only. The setting has experience of caring for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

There are three staff employed to work directly with the children. Two hold childcare qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is well promoted through the use of relevant procedures, for example, cleaning tables with anti-bacterial spray and reminding children to wash their hands after toileting and messy play. Further to this, children's risk of cross-infection is minimised as they have access to liquid soap and paper towels. However, this practice is inconsistent at times during the session. For example, children were observed to help themselves to biscuits on a number of occasions through the session and were not asked to clean their hands. This impacts on their understanding of good hygiene skills and their health. Accidents and medical records are completed appropriately, shared with parents and each entry is signed ensuring good practice is followed and that consistency of care is provided for all children. Two staff have a recognised first aid qualification enabling them to respond appropriately should a child have an accident whilst in their care.

Children's physical skills are suitably promoted as they walk to and from school each day and make use of the local park during fine weather. In addition to this, children make use of the resources on offer to develop their small muscle skills. For example, children were observed to skilfully use scissors and craft materials to create their own desired effect. Children's large muscle skills are extended as they have some opportunities to use the large downstairs hall occasionally, for organised games such as football, increasing their coordination and ability to participate appropriately in team games.

Children remain hydrated as they freely access juice or water throughout the session. Details of children's dietary needs are recorded appropriately, ensuring that staff can provide the foods that are suitable for them. Snacks, such as biscuits and fruit are provided for the children. However, children are not consistently encouraged to eat the fruit and are able to help themselves to biscuits throughout the session. This may impact on their health and understanding of healthy eating.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment in which they have their individual needs met well. A range of toys and resources are available to children each day in the adequately sized room, enabling them to initiate their own play as well as take part in adult-led activities. All furniture and equipment is suited to the age and ability of children ensuring that they are comfortable and can access the resources. For example, drinks are laid out on a table that is at children's height and equipment is stored so that children can view it easily.

Safety of all areas is considered to ensure that children's well being is maintained. Staff have developed a comprehensive risk assessment showing areas of hazard and how these will be made safe. However, the security of the building is a potential hazard to children, as the main entrance remains unlocked when they are present, as does the playroom in which children are situated. This puts children's safety at risk. In addition to this, some of the resources and craft materials are not stored safely which creates a hazard to adults and children. Children's well-being is supported as all required fire safety precautions are in place and regular fire drills are completed to ensure that children become aware of how to leave the premises in safety. Children are well supervised within the setting and to and from the local school. Staff teach

children to maintain their safety as they play, for example, when they are cutting with scissors and when manoeuvring chairs around the setting.

Children's welfare is appropriately maintained as staff are clear in their understanding of relevant child protection procedures should they have concerns for a child. A clear policy is in place, known by all and shared with parents and carers on children's entry, ensuring that children's safety and well-being is paramount.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and settle quickly into their play and routines of the club. They engage in a range of activities either with their peers or alone and are well supported by the caring and nurturing staff team. For example, a group of children were observed to scribe on the white board, chatting about what they were drawing and writing. A younger child, less familiar with the routines of the setting, was supported by a member of staff in accessing a drawing activity and helping them to get a drink. This contributes to children's sense of belonging.

Children make choices in their play and have a very good range of resources available to them, which promotes their likes and dislikes, as staff talk to the children about what they like to do and ensure that these opportunities are available on a regular basis. For example, some of the children enjoy making a variety of models and staff ensure that materials to promote this are always available. Children are also able to initiate their own play and request items that they particularly enjoy. For example, a child today had requested the use of the stencils, these were made available to them and they spent quality time making a range of words using a variety of coloured pens.

Children are happy and content in the child centred environment and most children are reluctant to leave when parents and carers arrive to collect them. Children speak enthusiastically to the inspector about what they like about the club, stating that the staff are 'really good fun' and that 'there's always lots of fun things to do that I can't do at home!'. They converse well with adults and their peers and confidently approach visitors, i.e., the inspector, asking why are they at their club.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are well met as the leader ensures that a range of information on the child is obtained from the parents and carers before they begin at the setting. This ensures that children's likes and dislikes are known, as well as any specific requirements they may have with regard to abilities or cultural diversity. An inclusive environment is offered to children. However, in the main, children only use an upstairs room that limits the accessibility to children who may have mobility difficulties. Although a downstairs room is available some days of the week which would be accessible to all. Children use a suitable assortment of toys and equipment that reflect other cultures and lifestyles, such as dolls, play characters and play food. They explore various festivals through planned, adult-led activities, increasing their knowledge of the wider world. Currently there are no children present that have learning difficulties and/or disabilities but staff have experience of caring for children with a variety of abilities and needs.

Children's behaviour is very good. They work very well in small and large groups and have been actively involved in developing group rules which are displayed on the wall to remind them and

new children how to behave appropriately. Children listen well to instructions, for example, don't run up the stairs and share and take turns as required, for example, when using computerised games. They develop their confidence and self esteem as staff praise them and thank them for good behaviour and ignore the negative behaviour as much as is possible. For example, on arriving at the club today the leader thanked the children for walking well from the school to the building and further praised the children for behaving well throughout the session.

Partnership with parents and carers works well, which in turn helps children to feel happy and settled. A good range of written information is available to parents informing them of the settings procedures and practice. Regular newsletters are provided to ensure that parents and carers are informed of any changes or events. Good communication is in place ensuring that parents and carers are kept informed of any information that needs to be shared from the school and of how children have been each day. Parents and carers speak highly of the staff team and feel that they work well with their children and offer a caring, committed and flexible service to all.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, welcoming and caring environment promoting their sense of belonging and enabling them to feel relaxed and at ease. The environment is organised to promote children's care, learning and play well, although some areas are cluttered which could impact on children's safety. Children's safety is further compromised, as security of the building is not appropriately maintained.

Staff working with children have appropriate experience, qualifications and skills to support children's well-being. Policies and procedures are appropriate in protecting children and are satisfactorily implemented to promote children's good health, safety and enjoyment. However, robust recruitment procedures are not always effectively followed and staff details are not maintained appropriately, which may impact on children's welfare.

Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the setting was given six recommendations to improve practice. These were to devise a written statement on special needs which is consistent with current legislation and guidance. Ensure that this is understood and implemented by all staff; devise and implement a policy about the exclusion of children who are ill or infectious and make sure parents are made aware of it; ensure that all records relating to day care activities are readily accessible on the premises and available for inspection at all times; ensure that Ofsted is notified of any significant changes to the premises; ensure that the child protection procedure for the out of school club and play scheme complies with local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures and keep a written record, signed by parents, of accidents to children.

The setting has taken steps to meet the recommendations. All documentation that was required has been devised to ensure that it reflects the National Standards for Out of School Care, is understood by staff and available for parents to view, supporting children's well-being. However, the child protection statement is not consistent with current legislation and therefore this remains an area for development. The registered person is aware that Ofsted should be notified

of any significant changes, although none have occurred since they were last inspected. All accidents that occur are recorded appropriately and signed by parents to ensure that children's safety and welfare are maintained.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since April 2004, 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

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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 snacks offered to children are healthy and nutritionally balanced
- ensure that the organisation of materials and resources in some areas of the room are organised effectively to ensure that they do not pose as a hazard and that the security of the premises is addressed to ensure that children can not leave them unsupervised
- ensure that all information on staff, including contact details and next of kin, are maintained appropriately and easily accessible and that all documentation, policies and procedures are up to date and followed accurately to ensure that safe and effective management of the setting.

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