

Little Diamonds OSC (St Philip Neri)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY259784
Inspection date	29 November 2007
Inspector	Michelle Smith
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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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Little Diamonds Out of School care club has been established since 1986. It is located in Sydenham. The group operates from church hall of Our lady and St Philip Neri. The Breakfast Club hours are 07:30 to 09:00 and the After School Club 15:00 to 18:00, during school terms. The Holiday Club Operates during school holidays from 08:00 to 18:00.

The after school and holiday club cares for a maximum of 40 children aged from five to eight years at any session. The breakfast club cares for a maximum of 35 children aged from five to eight years at any session. There are currently 65 children on roll. Most children live in the local area. There are seven full time staff who work with the children. Of these, three has a recognised early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children access an adequately clean and presentable setting. Staff remind children to wash their hands on arrival from school and before meals. Therefore, children are developing an

understanding of good hygiene practice. Children are developing their independence as they take themselves to the bathroom and tend to their personal needs. There are adequate toileting facilities. For example, soap and paper towels. However, the bins in the bathroom do not have covers. Therefore, children can access unclean items within the bin, which can lead to cross contamination. This means children health is not always protected. Staff preparing meals wear protective clothing. For example, gloves and use appropriate serving utensils.

There are clear procedures in place for children that become unwell and children with infectious diseases are not permitted to attend. This means children are protected from infection. There are document in place for recording accidents and permission for seeking emergency treatment. Staff have accessed training to develop their knowledge in administering specific medication. However, they do not have a procedure in place for recording medication and consent from parents to administer medication. This means children's wellbeing is not always safeguarded. Staff have updated their knowledge in first aid and there is a first aid box in place. This means they can administer first aid in the event of an emergency. Children benefit from opportunities to rest.

Children enjoy snacks that are nutritious and well balanced. They benefit from a variety of different snacks, including fresh fruits and vegetables. Therefore, children are developing an understanding of healthy eating. Children have access to fluids.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children access a secure environment, where they play and move around freely. All safety equipment in place is in working order. For example, smoke alarms and safety socket covers are securely in place. The fire equipment is serviced by the relevant services. However, they are not securely stored. This means children's wellbeing is not always protected. Children have access to suitable chairs and tables, where they can access meals and activities independently. They enjoy play materials that are in good condition and meets safety standards. They benefit from toys that are age appropriate and meets their interest.

There are clear procedures in place for escorting children to school. For example, staff use the appropriate crossing areas. Children are developing an understanding of road safety, through regular discussion on how to keep themselves safe. Children use appropriate safety restraints in the van, when travelling to and from the local schools. Therefore, children's welfare is protected.

The manager has a secure understanding of child protection procedures. There is a copy of the 'What to do if your worried about a child being abused' document. This means children's welfare is safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a range of different play experiences in a calm atmosphere. Staff provide children with interesting and enjoyable activities. For example, art and craft using a range of different materials. This means children do spend their time purposefully. Staff take an active interest in the children's activities and join in with their play, such as a game of snooker. This can make it a more pleasurable experience. They can freely access reading materials and enjoy independent reading.

Children are developing an understanding of programmable equipment as they access computers and play station. They are developing the understanding of turn taking, as they play a range of different games, such as connect four and draughts. This means children are beginning to take on board the importance of rules, as they participate in different games. Children benefit from play opportunities that are age appropriate. Staff provide sufficient play materials, that encourages the children to make choices. This means children are becoming independent as they choose between a variety of toys, books and activities, which appeal to all.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff ensure children enjoy an atmosphere that is relaxing and enjoyable. For example, children benefit from a quiet area, where they can rest. Children are developing self assurance as they communicate and develop relationships with others. For example, a child shared that she enjoyed coming to the after school club to be with her friends. Children eagerly search out their friends on arrival and engage in conversation about different subjects. For example, school activities throughout the day. The children play very well together and developing close trusting relationships with their friends. The older children are warm and affectionate towards the younger children and offers them a sense of security. This means children are developing a sense of belonging. Staff know the children well and build lasting relationships.

Children are generally well behaved and play with their friends harmoniously. Staff manage children's behaviour fairly well. Children are aware of the rules of the after school club and staff do reinforce this through discussion.

Staff praise and encourage children for their achievements and understand the positive impact this has on children. This means children are developing a positive self esteem.

Children interact with children and staff from a diverse cultural background. However, the play materials do not reflect positive images of different cultures or disability. They welcome children with Special Educational Needs and work in partnership with parents. Staff have established good working relationship with parents and share information daily relating to the progress of their children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children feel comfortable, happy and at ease in the environment. This means they are confident to initiate and extend their own play and learning. Although the provider is in breach of a regulation by not ensuring a qualified member of staff is on site with the children at all times and sufficient staff, there are no identified risks to children, as the provider made it clear that this was a isolated incident, due to a member of staff turning up late, and has agreed that a qualified member of staff will be on the premises at all times and sufficient staff immediately.

All staff are vetted and gone through the appropriate vetting procedure. Therefore, staff who have unsupervised access to children are suitable to do so. Staff use the policies and procedures to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. This contributes to continuity in the children's care. They share them with parents to keep them informed about the service. They value parents suggestion and use a questionnaire for feedback from parents. The staff work as a team and meet on a regular basis. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the manager agreed to, encourage all staff to use positive behaviour management strategies to ensure children involved in noisy activities do not disrupt others. They have designated a quiet area for children to rest and staff remind children to keep the noise level down, if children start getting too loud. The reading area has mats, blankets and cushions, where children can relax in a cosy atmosphere. They have changed the routine, where children can sit and enjoy snack time together.

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):

- make sure the dustbins in the bathroom have appropriate covers
- make sure fire equipment is stored safely
- make sure consent is obtained from parents in the event that medication needs to be administered
- make sure children have access to play materials, that reflects positive images of differences and disability
- make sure there is a qualified member of staff on the premises at all times; and maintain sufficient staffing levels.

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