

# North Horsham ASC

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY267450
<b>Inspection date</b>	20 November 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Shan Gwendoline Jones
<b>Setting Address</b>	The Holbrook Club, North Heath Lane, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 5PJ
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<b>Registered person</b>	Management Committee of North Horsham ASC
<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?

The North Horsham After School Club opened in 2003 and is run by North Horsham Voluntary Management Committee. It operates from a large room in the Holbrook Club in North Horsham.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 15:00 to 18:00 during term time. All children share access to a large playing field and enclosed children's play area for outdoor activities. There are currently 50 children in total on the roll of which 33 are aged from four to under eight years.

The after school club employs 12 members of staff. Of these seven hold appropriate early years qualifications.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's good health is promoted as effective hygiene procedures are in place to minimise the risk of infection. Most of the staff hold a current first aid certificates and have a good

knowledge of the importance of recording accidents and when administering medication, which ensures children's well being. Children understand why it is important to follow good personal hygiene routines such as washing their hands before snack time or after using the toilet.

Children are kept very safe from the spread of infection as staff clean tables before and after use. Staff follow detailed hygiene procedures and have effective systems in place to ensure food is stored and prepared safely. Children's individual dietary needs are well met and they are offered a healthy snack at each session.

Children relish the exercise programme for physical play every day as they engage in a range of games, for example, playing with hoops and bean bags. Outdoors they experience a good range of activities including football, cricket and various team sports. The activities contribute towards keeping children healthy and developing their physical skills.

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

The provision is good.

Children move confidently around the club, making their own choices about their play. Space is organised well and used effectively to allow children to take part in art and craft activities, play with table activities or sit quietly to read a book. Children have good access to a wide range of activities and good quality toys and equipment, which are appropriate to their age and development. They are safeguarded as staff check the toys and equipment on regular basis to reduce any hazards.

Staff pay high attention to ensuring risks and hazards are minimised. Fire drills are carried out regularly to ensure children are aware of emergency fire procedures and the door to the club is locked when the session is in progress.

Children's safety is well protected because staff have a good knowledge of child abuse and the reporting procedures to follow for child protection. The child protection procedure is currently being updated to ensure it meets current requirements.

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

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic and self assured in the after school club's welcoming environment. They enjoy their time at the club and actively take part in a varied range of activities. Staff plan some activities in advance such as art and craft work. Children's individual needs, and capabilities are catered for in the planning of activities. Staff adapt the activities for the less and more able children to ensure all children are included. Children are consulted regarding their preferred choice in their play. For example, children identified they enjoy making popcorn which staff schedule into the plans.

They particularly enjoy indulging their imaginations in art, craft and cooking activities. Children have a splendid time designing 'monsters' with the use of paint and stencils. Staff plan the activities to meet the needs of all the children in their care, whatever their age.

They are able to take part in well organised energetic play and quiet times when they can relax in quiet areas. For example, boys and girls can increase their football and cricket skills. They persevere and concentrate well at various activities such as chess and cross stitch, all of which are fun and stimulating.

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

The provision is good.

Children are valued and respected as individuals and are given appropriate praise and encouragement to enhance their self esteem and confidence. Children interact very well together; they play along side each other with great enjoyment. Appropriate and good positive strategies are used to manage any behavioural difficulties that may arise. Consequently, the concept of right and wrong is being reinforced in ways that the children understand. However, the behaviour management policy does not include how instances of bullying will be dealt with. Children work well together and are able to share appropriately.

Equality for all is encouraged very well as children are helped to understand each other's needs and treat everyone with respect. They develop positive self-esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions and make choices and decisions in their daily routine. Children learn about the diverse world around them. They experience the value of their own culture through posters, books and by participating in topics about it.

Children's individual needs are sufficiently met through the procedures used to share and exchange information between parents and staff. Relationships and partnership with parents is friendly. They receive useful information about the setting and staff verbally exchange pertinent information with them on a daily basis. In addition staff send out parental questionnaires to seek their views.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children have strong relationships with staff and enjoy the interesting range of play opportunities that are planned and provided by staff. Children benefit from some useful aspects in the organisation of care, which helps them to develop an understanding of how to keep healthy and learn to manage their own behaviour.

The manager works directly with the children and provides a good role model to staff. The manager and staff work very well together as a team, children feel comfortable and at ease at the setting. The staff organise the sessions to include activities indoors and outdoors. This means that an individual child would usually be able to find something to interest him or her. The good deployment of staff means that children are monitored effectively, this helps children feel secure and confident. Children are kept safe and healthy as staff attend and update training, including first aid.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. Good policies and procedures are in place and work well in practice to keep children healthy and safe. The manager is aware that some of the policies and procedures need updating. She works closely with the management committee to ensure they are reviewed and effectively implemented.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last care inspection the setting was asked to devise a system for planning and implementing a suitable range of activities for children; provide an appropriate range of resources that promote positive images of culture, ethnicity and disability and implement a policy for allegations against a member of staff and ensure that existing injuries are recorded.

A planning system is in place which offer a variety of activities suitable for the age range. The plans take into account the ages of the children and their individual interests. Resources reflecting positive images have been extended and staff incorporate into the activities focused on other cultures and beliefs, such as 'world craft and jewellery'.

A policy is in place to identify how allegations against a member of staff will be dealt with and all existing injuries that may have occurred prior to children attending the club are recorded and monitored in line with the policy.

### **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 complaint 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):

- update some of the policies and procedures to ensure they contain the necessary detail in line with the national standards.

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)