

Time Out Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 110385

Inspection date 11 October 2007

Inspector Coral Hales

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Registered person Time Out Childcare

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?

Time Out Childcare Whiteley is one of four clubs run by Time Out Childcare. The breakfast and after school club registered in 1999 and operates from Whiteley Primary School, Fareham, Hampshire. A maximum of 42 children between the ages of four and eight years may attend the group at any one time. In term time it is open from 07:30 to 08:50 and 15:00 to 18:00 and serves children who attend Whiteley school only. All children share access to outside play areas around the school grounds.

There are currently 83 children on roll. The group also care for children over the age of eight.

The group offers support to any child with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and to any with English as an additional language.

The group employs eight members of staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is working towards a qualification. The group is a member of the Kids Club network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in an environment which is generally clean and tidy. There are routines in place to ensure all areas used are clean and suitable for children. Good procedures help children become aware of personal hygiene issues. For example, they clean their teeth after breakfast and wash their hands before meals and are encouraged to become independent in their self-help skills. All relevant consents including emergency treatment/advice is maintained and information relating to health issues are shared between the staff and parents. Records of accidents and medication administered to children are in place and appropriately maintained.

Children are well nourished and their individual dietary needs are catered for. A varied diet is provided that includes fresh fruit and vegetables, savoury and sweet snacks and healthy breakfast foods. For example, children choose from the healthy option food that is provided as well as selecting toast or bread and a selection of spreads. They receive food and drinks in sufficient quantities to meet their needs. Fresh drinking water or squash is readily available for children to quench their thirst at the beginning of the session and again at tea time, and can be accessed at all times. Children participate in activities that help reinforce the benefits of healthy eating, for example, cooking activities or as they try foods from different countries as part of a planned activity.

Children in the out of school club enjoy outdoor physical play, using a variety of equipment to support their gross motor skills. They participate in a wide range of physical and outdoor play activities that provide them with plenty of fresh air and exercise. Children have access to a range of different areas to practice ball skills, play games or just run around and chase each other. Staff actively promote outdoor play and children are keen to go out with the staff and have lots of fun together.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from playing in a bright, spacious and generally well-organised environment that is well set out to meet their needs. Safety has been well considered and staff make good use of the risk assessment to minimise hazards. For example, plugs are covered and children are really well supervised when moving around the premises and when outside. Written fire procedures are in place and are known to staff, children and parents, and evacuations are practised, however, few details are noted. Children are constantly and directly supervised at all times to ensure they are kept safe. Appropriate staffing levels are maintained for both the breakfast and after school club.

Children choose what to play with from a range of resources that are suitable for their age and stage of development. Toys and equipment are safe, clean and well-maintained and easily accessible to allow children to develop their play in a safe environment.

The staff team is trained in safeguarding children procedures and they have a sound understanding of what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. They have a good understanding of their responsibilities to the children in their care and are aware of the correct procedures to follow in an emergency. However, the written policy does not relate to new guidance issued by the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children participate in a wide range of enjoyable and interesting play opportunities and activities. The club is organised to reflect that school children are spending their leisure time at the group. They have lots of choice and participate in a good range of activities that are predominately designed to be fun. Playing outside and computer games and creative activities are firm favourites. For example, children make a hedgehog for a display and really enjoy the interaction of the staff in their games, such as snooker. They have well developed imaginations and quickly become engrossed in role-play activities. They act out make-believe scenarios using small world toys, such as dolls, or construction kits. Children are happy and laugh and chat excitedly as they play together.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated as individuals and their needs respected and a satisfactory range of resources helps to develop children's knowledge of the wider world, for example, books. They participate in activities that help them to consider and value diversity, for example, festivals and special events. Currently there are no children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities or children who speak English as an additional language attending the group, but staff have past experience and ensure that they work closely with parents and other professionals to meet each child's needs.

Children behave generally well and listen to staff who use effective methods to gain the children's attention for example, when staff want children's attention they hold up their hands and the children copy and stop to listen. Children play well with each other, they negotiate, share and are kind to each other. They are gently reminded of acceptable behaviour as they play. The club has agreed a set of club rules that are displayed on the wall to remind children, and staff praise good behaviour and firmly manage challenging behaviour.

The club fosters an effective partnership with parents, who are greeted in a welcoming and friendly manner by staff. Parents speak highly about the club, the fun and organised environment and how happy their children are whilst at the setting. Information about children and the club is effectively shared through daily discussions and required documentation, and an informative prospectus. There is a written complaints policy in place and parents are effectively informed how to share any concerns they may have.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are settled at the friendly, relaxed and busy club. The environment is appropriately organised to ensure children are not cared for in too large a group and to provide different types of play and activity areas. Children confidently and independently choose what they want to play with and how they spend their time. Staff are well deployed, hold appropriate childcare qualifications and play an active role in supporting and encouraging the children's play and learning. They attend regular short training courses and this enables them to constantly develop their practice, skills and knowledge. Robust recruitment, selection and induction procedures are in place to ensure the suitability of staff.

Documentation for both the breakfast and after school club is well-organised and clear policies and procedures maintain children's care and well-being. They are readily available to underpin staff practice and inform parents. All required records, policies and procedures are in place and are appropriately maintained and stored securely. The registration certificate is displayed. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Following the last inspection the provider agreed to update and improve systems to inform parents about: accidents and medication, complaints and the procedure to be followed in the event of a child being lost. These recommendations have been fully met and ensure the safety and well-being of the children, and keep parents fully informed.

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):

- ensure that the fire log contains full details and that the child protection policy relates to The Local Safeguarding Children Board guidance.

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