

Saltash Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 103005
Inspection date 09 January 2008
Inspector Sara Jane Frost

Setting Address Brunel CP School, Callington Road, Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 4QE

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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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Saltash Kids Club opened in 1983. It operates from two rooms in a Elliot building on the school site of Brunel Primary, in Saltash. A maximum of 40 children may attend the kids club at any one time. The group is open from 08.00 until 09.00 and 15.15 until 18.00 weekdays in term time, and 8.00 to 17.30 during some school holidays. Children can use the playground and the school playing field for outdoor activities.

There are currently 40 children aged from 4 to under 12 on roll. The majority of children attend are from Brunel School but, children from other schools in Saltash also use this provision.

There are six staff who work with the children, of whom five have an appropriate childcare qualification. The Kids Club is working towards the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership Quality Assurance award.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health and hygiene is promoted well by staff. Clear hygienic routines have been established with the children. For example, children wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet, staff remind the children to ensure this is completed appropriately. However, the risk of cross contamination is heightened as children share a communal bar of soap when hand washing.

The kid's club ensures there is always at least one member of staff present who holds a paediatric first aid certificate. Parental consent has been sought for seeking emergency treatment, however, consent for emergency medical advice is not present. Clear accident records are maintained including information passed on from the school of accidents that have occurred during the day. Parents are requested to sign against entries made.

Snacks are prepared by staff and are available as soon as the children enter the building. The staff's gentle persuasion and guidance ensure children maintain their fluid levels. Fresh drinking water is freely accessible throughout the session.

Good use is made of the outdoor facilities; children have access to a large playground area and grassed area weather permitting. They are provided with a good range of physical activities from basketball, stilts, football and various wheeled resources.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The club operates from two rooms within an Elliot building on the school site. The second room is shared with a pre-school but the kids club does have sole use of the room during the clubs opening times. The main room is brightly decorated with various projects the children have undertaken, such as the colourful Mehndi designs. Good procedures are in place to ensure the younger children are collected appropriately at the end of the school day. Persons cannot enter the building without prior knowledge of the staff.

Children have access to a range of suitable resources which are easily accessible to the children. This provides children with a good degree of choice in their play. Children's safety is not compromised as all the staff are familiar with the out of school club's fire evacuation process. Fire drills are regularly conducted with the children at least once every term. The majority of the children attend the school on site so are therefore familiar with meeting points.

Children's welfare is promoted well as staff are confident in child protection issues. They are well aware of their responsibilities around reporting any concerns in line with the current guidelines and the kids' club policy.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children clearly enjoy being at the kid's club; they enter the building with ease and know the routines well. For example, after hanging up their coats they go and wash their hands before sitting down to snack. Children are genuinely pleased to see staff when they enter the room

and greet each other with smiles and hugs. Staff have a lovely rapport with the children, they obviously know the children well and are able to share a joke with each other. Children are enthusiastic about attending the club, they are eager to talk about their club and discuss what they have been doing.

Staff are attentive, responsive and encourage children's enjoyment of the play activities available.

Children are able to freely choose from a good range of activities both indoors and outside. They clearly enjoy being able to play with their friends, be it an organised ball game or a table top game of 'Who am I' or small pairings in imaginative play. The well decorated rooms show children have regular opportunities to undertake various craft activities.

Staff ensure children feel valued as they spend time engaged in conversation. Children sit chatting freely and confidently with staff and clearly benefit from the individual attention they regularly receive.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have formed good relationships with staff and are clearly settled and happy. Their individual needs are well known by the staff and children are supported well. Children have access to a good range of resources and themed programmes.

Children's behaviour is good. Staff know children well; they are aware of potential issues and handle situations very well. For example, staff help and encourage children to share resources and take turns. Older children look out for the younger children, for example, when playing football and including them in their play.

Staff have developed a good working relationship with the parents and work hard with the school to provide additional support when required. Parents are greeted in a warm and friendly way. The club notice board is displayed in the entrance area which provides a variety of information for the parents, which includes details of the range of activities on offer and numerous leaflets. Parents are happy with the care the out of school club provides.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are well cared for by suitably qualified staff. They are well protected as procedures are in place which does not allow unvetted persons to be left alone with the children. The organisation of the rooms enables children to have access to various resources, from quiet activities to more physical robust play, which allows children free choice. Children benefit from the staff and areas used being well organised upon their arrival. The good deployment of staff allows children to be able to make their own choices for accessing indoor or outdoor play and provides children with good support in their play.

Documentation is readily available that supports the suitability and qualifications of all staff. The registration certificate is clearly displayed for all to see. Systems are in place to record staff and children in attendance at any one time. Although the times of arrival and departure of children and visitors are recorded times are not recorded for staff. The majority of the required documentation is in place. The provider meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, recommendations were made to improve fire safety aspects and update the staff's paediatric first aid qualifications. Both recommendations have now been met. Children's safety is no longer compromised as the kids club ensures there is at least one member of staff present who holds a current paediatric first aid certificate and the sofa provided for the children in the quiet area now conforms to fire safety regulations.

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 the arrival and departure times of staff are fully recorded
- ensure parental consent has been obtained to seek emergency medical advice and ensure suitable resources are available for hand washing.

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