

# Falconbrook After School Centre and Holiday Playcentre

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	123230
<b>Inspection date</b>	10 December 2007
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<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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Falconbrook Out of School and Falconbrook Nursery Play Centre are run by the London Borough of Wandsworth's Play and Community Services and operate from Falconbrook School, which is located on a large housing estate in Battersea. It operates during the school holidays when available, from 9:00 to 17:15. A wrap around service is also provided from 8:00 to 9:00 and 17:15 to 18:00, offering breakfast and an afternoon snack.

At the time of the inspection there were twenty children on roll. The service is used by children from Falcon Brook, Sacred Heart and Christ Church schools. It operate Monday to Friday 15:00 - 18:00 term time.

The after school club employs three members of staff. Of these two hold appropriate early years qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted well because staff have current first aid certificates and accidents to the children are dealt with appropriately. Children observe a high level of hygiene; they wash their hands before handling food and after visit to the toilet.

Children enjoy healthy and nutritious snacks such as fruits and sandwiches. They learn about healthy foods, for example, there are lots of colourful posters on display. Drinking water is available from a water fountain in the playground. This means that generally the children can help themselves to water according to their needs.

Cross infection to the children is minimised, because staff share information about the care and exclusion of children who are ill.

Children enjoy physical exercise as they engage in free play, for example, they climb playground apparatus and play tennis. Staff encourages the children to organise team games, such as football. Children have the opportunity to use a good range of resources which improve their physical skills, such as swinging from a rope.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a safe environment space that is generally organised to enable the children to engage in play indoor and outdoors. All the children have access to a fair range of play equipment suitable to their age and development. However, this is not always presented in a way to sustain the children's interest.

Sound systems are in place to ensure the children's safety inside the building. Staff carries the relevant information with them when they go to collect the children from two schools in the borough. Suitable policies and procedures ensure the children's safety on outings. Children demonstrate a good understanding of safety and they contribute to a list of sentences about how to keep themselves safe. Fire doors are clearly labelled and the evacuation procedures on display. However, there is no record of fire drills carried out. This compromises the children's safety as some of the children do not attend the school and therefore are not familiar with the school. Also the manager was unable to show a current public liability insurance. Effective security systems are in place for children's departure. Visitors to the after school club are asked to sign themselves in and out of the building. This safeguards the children's welfare.

Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and have experiences of reporting concerns. This promotes the children's welfare. However, the child protection policy needs updating to include procedures to be followed in the event of allegations against members of staff.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and relaxed in their environment. They relate well with staff and each other. Their art and written work is beautifully displayed in the main class room. Generally the children

are good at entertaining themselves as they wait for staff to prepare their afternoon tea. Some of the children play charades. Staff have a flexible approach to planning that allows children to contribute to how they wish to spend their time.

Children are interested in the range of learning resources available. They participate in creative activities and use a range of collage materials to make cards for Christmas. However, their interest is short lived as some of the activities offer insufficient challenge.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn about other cultures through the celebration of festivals such as Black History month. They talk about their favourite hero's. Their self esteem is promoted because they have opportunity to show off their skills in front of the group. Children co-operate with each other and are also happy to carry out requests from staff. They are well behaved because staff praise and encourage them appropriately.

There is good support for children and families who have learning difficulties and staff have developed strong links with outside agencies to support them in their work. Parents are asked to provide detailed information about how best to meet the needs of their child.

Parents are requested to provide detailed written information about their children and members of the family. They are invited to take part in the after school club. Systems are in place to keep parents informed about the policies and procedure that guide staff in their work.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by staff who know them well because most of them are class room assistants at the school. Staff are employed by the local borough who carries out all the necessary checks. Members of staff wear a uniform and name badge. This means that they are easily recognised. This promotes the children's welfare as some of the children do not attend Falconbrook School.

Staff have recognised qualification. However, it is unclear whether the deputy's qualification is suitable for her to cover in the absence of the manager.

Procedures and record keeping systems are well organised and used effectively to promote children's safety and well-being. Information on the children is confidently kept in the school's office.

Staff refer to the school's policies and procedures to support them in their work.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection six recommendations were made; three of the recommendations related to paper work, medication and accidents records are now up to date in line with requirements. The child protection policy was dated but since the last inspection new regulations has been made. Therefore a new recommendation has been made. The recommendation to improve the

selection of resources which reflects equal opportunity has been met. Satisfactory progress has been made in addressing these recommendations to improve the outcomes for children.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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):

- keep a record of fire drills
- obtain public liability insurance
- ensure that the children are involved in a broad range of activities
- provide evidence that the deputy manager has appropriate qualification to be in charge in the absence of the manger
- update the child protection policy to include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation against a member of staff.

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)