

# South Grove YMCA After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

---

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	159438
<b>Inspection date</b>	28 March 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Jane Davenport
<b>Setting Address</b>	37 Ringwood Road, Walthamstow, London, E17 8PW
<b>Telephone number</b>	07932 687011
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Forest YMCA of East London
<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?

South Grove YMCA After School Club was registered in 2001 and is one of the many out of school provisions run by Forest YMCA. It operates from a porta cabin in the grounds of South Grove Primary School, which is situated in Walthamstow in the London borough of Waltham Forest.

A maximum of 25 children between the ages of four and eight years may attend the provision at any one time. Care is also provided for children over eight years. The group currently operates each week day during term time from 15.00 to 18.00. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently six children aged from four years to under eight years on roll. The provision employs three staff, including the manager, over half of whom hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is good.

Children play in a generally clean environment, where they learn the importance of good personal hygiene from an early age. They are encouraged to wash their hands after visiting the toilet and before eating, and are beginning to understand the importance of keeping their hands clean and free of germs.

Two members of staff hold a current first aid certificate. This means they can give appropriate care if there is an accident. Parents give prior written consent to administer medication, and this ensures that children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. The accident record is completed fully and parents are informed of any accidents.

Staff gather all relevant information regarding diet and medical history. This ensures that children's individual dietary and medical needs are met. Children benefit from a healthy diet. They enjoy nutritiously balanced meals and snacks, including chicken sandwiches, tomatoes, pasta with tuna, pitta bread, noodles and fresh fruit, which encourages them to develop healthy eating practices. Fresh drinking water is available at all times and children are confident to help themselves. This encourages them to think about their personal needs. Several staff members have attended a food hygiene course and follow good hygiene procedures, such as wearing disposable gloves, when preparing and serving food.

Children regularly enjoy a range of activities that contribute to their health and develop their physical skills. They demonstrate a good sense of space and move confidently during physical activities.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have easy and safe access to toys and resources that are stimulating and suitable for their age and stage of development. Staff organise the indoor space effectively, allowing children to move around safely, freely and independently. They give high priority to helping children understand how to keep themselves safe. For example, children receive reminders about why it is not safe to run indoors and, during an activity when the children are making fruit kebabs, the member of staff explains very carefully that the skewers they are using are sharp and they must take great care.

Staff have a satisfactory understanding of safety issues and carry out generally effective daily checks on the building, outdoor area and equipment. However, broken radiator covers have not been made safe and this poses a potential risk. Children are safeguarded effectively in emergencies and practise emergency evacuation procedures regularly. Staff are vigilant at recording visitors, the premises are secure and there are good systems in place to prevent children from being collected by unauthorised people.

Staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and know what action to take if they have concerns about a child in their care. This promotes and safeguards children's welfare within the setting.

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

The provision is good.

Children are settled and relaxed. They gain confidence through consistent routines and close relationships with the friendly and caring staff, who are aware of their individual needs. They enjoy a good range of activities that are stimulating and well balanced for all ages. These include participating in construction activities, completing puzzles, writing and being supported with completing their homework if they wish.

Children have good opportunities to participate in physical play and challenges. They organise ball games together with staff members or independently, and practise kicking footballs and hitting balls to one another with the scoop bats. They demonstrate good hand and eye co-ordination, spatial awareness and a developing use of their large and fine motor skills.

Children's creative and imaginative development are encouraged through activities such as art and craft, role play, cookery and music. For example, on the afternoon of the inspection, a group of children were engaged in making fruit kebabs, naming the different fruits, carefully 'threading' them onto their skewers, labelling them with their names and then enjoying the finished product.

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

The provision is good.

Staff have a positive attitude towards diversity and are good role models, helping children learn the importance of showing respect for all. There is a good range of activities and resources available that provides children with a positive outlook on the wider world, and staff encourage all children to participate in the activities provided. This ensures children have equal opportunities to maximise their enjoyment and potential.

Staff offer good support for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and for those who speak English as an additional language. Activities are adapted appropriately so that all children are able to experience a range of stimulating activities which are suitable for their level of ability.

Children's behaviour is generally good. Staff make expectations of behaviour clear and set consistent boundaries for children, which enables them to learn to negotiate with others and take responsibility for their own behaviour. Children are developing an understanding of right and wrong and are given the time and opportunity for reflection when they present with challenging behaviour. The use of praise and encouragement effectively reinforces good behaviour.

The partnership with parents is good. Parents provide appropriate and relevant information about their children to the staff. This helps to ensure children receive individual care and attention. Parents express their satisfaction with the service they receive.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides care. Children benefit from a well organised environment, where they receive good adult support to help them feel secure and confident.

There are effective recruitment procedures in place. Induction training ensures staff understand the policies and procedures so they can contribute to the safety and welfare of children and there are suitable contingency plans in place to cover for absences to ensure children always have appropriate supervision. Staff understand their role and responsibility. They have the opportunity for professional development and the management actively encourage staff to attend training.

All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place and is regularly reviewed. Record keeping is generally good.

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

At the last inspection, a recommendation was made for the group to provide Ofsted with details of the named deputy. Details were subsequently provided, which resulted in Ofsted having more up-to-date staff records for the provision.

### **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):

- assess the risks to children in relation to broken radiator covers and take action to minimise these

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)