

# Lydiard Millicent After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique Reference Number** 199396

**Inspection date** 12 December 2007

**Inspector** Karen Louise Prager

**Setting Address** Lydiard Millicent Primary School, The Butts, Lydiard Millicent, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 3LR

**Telephone number** 01793 772981

**E-mail** lmafterschoolclub@yahoo.co.uk

**Registered person** The Trustees of Lydiard Millicent After School Club

**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](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?

Lydiard Millicent After School Club has been open since 2001. It operates from a single storey building in the grounds of Lydiard Millicent Primary School. The provision serves the children who attend the school which covers a wide catchment area.

The Club is registered to care for 26 children from four to eight years. There are currently 13 children from four to eight years on roll. The provision also cares for children who are over eight years of age. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The provision supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language. The group opens five days a week during term time. Sessions are from 15.00 to 18.00.

There are one full time and four part time staff who work with the children; of these, three staff members have a level three qualification, and one staff member has a level two qualification. The setting receives support from Bright Horizons and 4 Children.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children learn the importance of suitable personal hygiene with well established daily routines. They know, for example, that they must wash their hands before eating their snack. Effective procedures such as, wiping the tables before snack and the regular cleaning of resources helps to prevent the stop of infection. Children's health care needs are suitably promoted as staff liaise with relevant professionals and parents which enables an appropriate individual care plan to be established when required.

Children benefit from an ample quantity of food, supplied by the club, during snack time. They are able to help themselves to cereal and fruit throughout the session. A snack time is also part of the daily routine and children enjoy a wide variety of foods together. Drinks are also available throughout the session. Children develop their awareness of the importance of healthy eating through activities and discussion. Staff liaise with parents and children to ensure that food and drink provided complies with all special dietary needs. This ensures that children remain healthy.

Children are able to rest and be active. They enjoy and learn the importance of physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle as vigorous outdoor physical play is a daily feature of the after school provision. Children are able to play under supervision in the school playground, with a current favourite being the playing of football. This promotes the development of a positive attitude to exercise and encourages the children's physical development.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for within the school setting with which they are familiar. The premises are clean, well maintained and of an appropriate temperature. Their risk of accidental injury is minimised as staff perform a daily risk assessment and are constantly vigilant in the supervision of children. Children use a sufficient range of safe, good quality, resources. Activities are set out for the children at the start of the session. Further resources are stored on the premises and are available to children on request. Staff explain safe practices, such as why children sit carefully on chairs so they do not bump themselves or others and hurt themselves. This helps children learn to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe.

Children are well protected. The child protection co-ordinator ensures that all staff are familiar with the procedures and is able to take appropriate action on any concerns regarding children's welfare.

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

The provision is good.

Children are settled and happy within the setting and are confident in their relationships with practitioners. They enter the setting happily after a busy school day and are able to mix freely with their peers selecting from a range of suitable activities. There is space for children to rest or be active. Children benefit from routines which are flexible. This enables activities to be offered according to the children's interest. The planning for a cooking activity for the following week is carried out in consultation with the children which enables them to feel included and valued.

Children play happily together, and with other adults, enjoying using resources such as craft, role-play, small world toys and outdoor equipment, generally suitable to their age and development. Staff have a suitable understanding of the activities that are appropriate for school aged children and the interests of the children attending. Children become involved in playing with computer games or creating seasonal craft such as decorating and assembling their own Christmas crackers.

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

The provision is good.

The club welcomes all children and seeks to meet the needs of all children attending. Children participate in collecting and collating items to fill shoe boxes to be sent overseas. This helps children develop a positive attitude to others. Children are very well behaved and polite in response to the expectations of practitioners. They take turns with the computer and show concern for others when participating in role-play. Children benefit from the positive partnership staff have developed with parents. Parents receive regular newsletters and an annual questionnaire invites feedback on the provision. Practitioners continue to share important information about the children's needs and interests through informal dialogue. Children benefit from this two way sharing of information between parents and practitioners which enables children to feel settled and secure.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's care is well supported by staff who have appropriate knowledge and experience for their roles and responsibilities and are suitable to be with the children. A range of appropriate policies and procedures are available within the setting for staff and parents to read and refer to. Most required documentations maintained. However, the clearance procedure for committee members is not promptly progressed.

The provider has a commitment to improving practice. Suitable induction training is in place for new staff and the provider ensures that all staff hold a current first aid certificate. Ongoing staff supervision takes place and an appraisal on staff performance is carried out annually. The provision meets the needs of the children for whom it provides.

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

At the previous inspection there were four recommendations raised to improve the provision for children. These were to ensure resources are provided that will challenge and stimulate children's inventiveness with regard to construction toys and interesting outdoor games and books; to ensure that all staff are involved in the improvement of plans which reflect children's interests and free play activities; to establish regular hand washing routines with the children in order to prevent the spread of infection; to provide a written statement that includes how instances of bullying will be managed.

The provision has drawn up a policy regarding the management of bullying which has improved children's safety and participation. The activities provided for the children are now planned by all staff and are more varied, though this continues to be an area for development. Children were seen to be purposefully engaged in a range of activities. Hand washing procedures are

now established in the daily routine and children all know to wash hands before snack improving their health.

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

Since 1 April 2004 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 clearance procedures for the committee are swiftly implemented when required
- continue to develop the activities and organisation of resources to ensure they enhance children's play.

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)