

# Moose

Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique Reference Number</b> | EY242964   |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 14 February 2008   |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Yvonne Campbell  |
| <b>Setting Address</b>         | St Michaels & AA Church, Windmill Hill, Bristol, BS3 4LW |
| <b>Telephone number</b>        | 0117 9639785   |
| <b>E-mail</b>                  | play@themalago.net                                       |
| <b>Registered person</b>       | Malago Play Association Ltd                              |
| <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?

The Moose Out of School Play Scheme opened in 2003. It is managed by a voluntary management committee and operates from the Meeting Room of St Michael & All Angel Church in Bedminster, Bristol. The minister of the church is the chair of committee. The Play scheme serves the local and surrounding areas and children are collected from three local schools namely: St Mary Redcliffe Primary School; Parsons Street Primary School and Victoria Park Infant and Junior Schools. Children are supervised as they travel to the play scheme in a minibus.

A maximum of 24 children may attend the play scheme at any one time. Children from the age of three to under eight years attend but, older children up to the age of 11 years also attend. There are currently 88 children on roll. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area at the front of the premises.

The group opens five days a week during term time. Sessions are from 15.15 to 18.00 hours. Opening times for the holiday play scheme is from 8.30 to 18:00 hours.

Five members of staff work with the children. Three including the play leader have Level 3 qualifications. One member of staff is working towards a Level 2 qualification. The deputy play

leader is working towards a Foundation Degree. The setting receives support from Bristol Association of Neighbourhood Day Care (BAND).

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a generally clean and warm environment. Cleaners are employed by the church to clean the meeting room and the toilet area. Children have access to three toilets with sinks for washing hands. Liquid soap and paper towels are provided and there are several colourful notices reminding children to wash their hands. However, the large accessible toilet and nappy changing area is not maintained to satisfactory hygiene standards. In addition, children may be at risk from infection as some children do not wash their hands before snack time.

Satisfactory procedures are in place to ensure that children's medical needs are met. The medication policy is well set out and parents give prior written permission if children need medicines. The procedure ensures that doses given are recorded and that parents sign to acknowledge they have been informed. Children have prompt attention to minor injuries as two members of staff have current first aid certificates and the first aid box is well stocked and is kept accessible for use in a designated area in the kitchen. All accidents are recorded and parents are informed.

Children who attend the after school club have snacks which have sufficient nutritional values. This includes toast, sandwiches, biscuits and fresh fruit. Fresh drinking water and squash is available throughout the session and children help themselves to drinks when they are thirsty. Children do not have food that is harmful to them as staff are aware of food allergies and preferences. Information about specific dietary needs are recorded on individual registration forms and staff make sure children are not given any food listed as causing an allergic reaction.

Children enjoy a varied range of activities that contribute to their health and develop their physical skills. They enjoy playing football in the outdoor area and show skills of speed and agility as they kick and challenge for the ball. Some children enjoy individual challenge such as skipping with a rope and moving up and down the wide concrete path. This area is also used by children for skateboarding and playing with hoops. Children also enjoy regular trips to a nearby park and they occasionally take part in specialist activities such as climbing at a climbing centre.

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

The provision is good.

Children are excited as they arrive at the club as staff have created a welcoming child friendly environment which is decorated with children's work. Children have space to move around to play and to socialise with others. The meeting room is sectioned into several activity areas including, art and craft, dressing up and imaginary play in the social corner. Children also have access to a computer with some of the latest interactive games. Children choose which area they want to play in or they are able to rest, in a quiet area on soft chairs if they are tired after school. A parent's notice board is provided and parents are at ease as they browse over the information when they collect their children. The play resources set out by staff are carefully selected to ensure that children play with a variety of enjoyable resources. Toys are safe and age-appropriate as they are purchased from reputable educational suppliers. Different items

are rotated into use when appropriate and staff make regular checks to ensure that they are not broken and hazardous to children.

There are well thought through systems which ensures the safe arrival and departure of children who attend the after school club. Staff collect the children from three different school sites and the record of attendance is generated from the computer each day so that all staff have a clear understanding of which children they are collecting. Children are transferred safely to the care of staff as they work in collaboration with the schools who ensure that younger children are supervised and brought to a central point for collection. The vehicle used is suitable and safe for the purpose and drivers are vetted by the minister of the church. Parent's sign their children out at collection time.

Children are safe from identified hazards and risk as a comprehensive risk assessment with control measures is in place. There are also daily checks of the premises, for example, the outdoor area is examined before children use it. Findings are recorded and action is taken to maintain a safe environment at all times. Children are familiar with the procedure for leaving the premises in an emergency as the fire drill is practised regularly and evaluated for effectiveness.

Children's well being is safeguarded and promoted as the policy is thorough, defines abuse and staff know what action to take if they suspect that abuse has taken place. Two named persons are available to advise and support staff. A flow chart is also displayed and staff have a contact number for contacting the appropriate agency. Two members of the committee are responsible for monitoring safeguarding children issues

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a range of physical and recreational activities of their choice. They enjoy free play with a selection of play resources and they are also developing a sense of being active members of the local community. For example, they have ownership of the space they use as staff consult them about changes to the premises, such as, the design of the wooden safety railing outdoors and also the new stained glass door. Children worked with local artists who transferred their ideas and drawings onto glass to create the scene memorialised in the door. A set of post cards and greetings cards also carried children's prints and a written acknowledgement of their contribution. Members of the local press and television were present for the unveiling of the door.

Children also have opportunities to explore and extend their understanding of the oceans and continents of the world. A large colour map of the world is displayed. The labels placed on the map are used as prompts for generating discussion. Children share what they know about Equator, the Tropic of Capricorn and extend their understanding of words such as latitude and longitude during discussions with staff. Children take part in some adult initiated activities at the holiday club. A theme of 'Space' enabled children to research the planets and they are learning how to use special books from the library and how to gather information from the internet. Children consolidated their learning by making craft models and inviting parents to look at a display of their work.

Children are developing useful life skills through cookery activities carried out by a member of the community who teaches cookery in schools. Children learn how to follow a recipe and make

tasty dishes such as coleslaw and a Caribbean favourite 'Rice and peas'. Recipes are printed so they can be used again. Children take home cooked products or eat them at the club.

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

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are met through discussion with parents and all are treated with equal concern. Details of general needs are recorded on registration forms. Staff also make observations of how children interact with others and work with parents to arrive at suitable solutions to raise some children's self esteem and to help them feel that their contribution is valued. Children have access to resources that promote a positive view of difference. They play with male and female dolls which symbolise children from various ethnic backgrounds. They also have, musical instruments, cultural dressing up clothes and do drawings and colouring of art work with positive images of disability. The premises are accessible to children who are wheelchair users and a spacious toilet is available for privacy when meeting sanitary needs. However, staff have not considered fully how the club meets the needs of disabled children as they have not developed a written statement on special needs.

Children's behaviour is managed well as they are purposefully occupied and have an understanding about what is expected of them. Staff involve children in developing the ground rules which include no fighting, no snatching, be helpful and have fun. Children have ownership of the ground rules and use colourful artwork to display them in a prominent place on the wall.

Staff work closely with parents and establish methods of communication with them about the care offered to their children at the club. Staff visit the school's new parent evening to let them know about the service they provide to the community and parents are free to ask questions about how the club is operated. All new parents have an information pack with general information and also the policies and procedures. Parents also have access to a notice board, the complaints procedure and a telephone number for Ofsted and BAND if they have any concerns. Staff also give daily feedback when parents arrive to collect their children. Staff seek parent's written response to the care they provide for children and carry out a Satisfaction Survey regularly to ascertain how parents evaluate the service.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are happy as staff are friendly, caring and have a clear understanding of their role in supporting children to learn from their play and enjoy their recreation. Staff have the required qualification and they are encouraged to take advantage of training opportunities. One member of staff is working towards a degree level qualification and that individual takes responsibility for cascading down information she receives on the course about good practices. All staff are safe to be in close proximity to children as a system is in place to carry out Criminal Record checks on all staff and volunteers.

The record of attendance clearly shows when children attend the club. Staff sign children in and parents sign them out at collection time. The attendance forms are systematically filed and are easy to access for reference. Children have sufficient attention and support as the adult to child ratio is maintained as required. Children are kept safe on visits and during specialist sports as the activities are risk assessed and staff ensure that any outside instructors are suitably qualified to instruct and supervise children.

The documents and written policies which support care practices are well presented and offers the reader clear information about how staff respond in particular situations. Policies are regularly reviewed with the assistance of a day care agency and many are being reviewed at the current time. However, this does not include a statement on special needs. Also, some hygiene procedures are not carried out according to policy. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

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

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to a recommendation to conduct a risk assessment of the premises and to ensure that there is a regular system for reviewing safety arrangements. The provider also agreed to increase the range of toys and equipment available to children including resources to promote equal opportunity. A further recommendation was given to ensure that a system is in place for monitoring checks for staff and committee members.

The procedures for keeping children safe has now improved as staff have carried out a comprehensive written risk assessment of the premises and this includes various control measures which are in place. Staff also make daily checks of potentially hazardous areas of the premises and record their finding on the back of the record of attendance document. Children now have access to play resources which promote a positive view of difference. These include various dolls, ethnic dressing up clothes and musical instruments. Children do not have contact with individuals who are not suitable as an established system is in place to ensure that all staff and volunteers undergo the appropriate Criminal Record checks.

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

Since the last inspection, there have been no complaints made to Ofsted which 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 log 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):

- further develop procedures promoting children's good health and ensure the daily routine includes washing hands before snacks and meals
- improve practices for keeping the premises clean and ensure that all areas accessible to children, including the large accessible toilet are cleaned regularly and maintained in hygienic conditions

- improve the organisation of written policies and procedures which supports the care of children and develop a written statement about special needs which is consistent with current legislation and guidance and make the document available to parents.

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)