

Grand Avenue Out Of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	405547
Inspection date	22 November 2007
Inspector	Lindsay Ann Farenden

Setting Address	Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School, Grand Avenue, Berrylands, Surrey, KT5 9HU
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Registered person	Grand Avenue Out Of 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.

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?

Grand Avenue Out Of School Club opened in 1999. It operates from a separate permanent brick built classroom within the grounds of Grand Avenue school. The service provides care for nursery children from aged four years, and children from the infant and junior schools. The breakfast club is open from 07.45 to 09.00 and the after school is open from 14.55 to 18.00 each week day during term time.

The out of school club is registered for a maximum of 32 children at any one time. Children from the age of four to 11 years attend the club. There are currently 65 children on roll, who attend a variety of sessions and of these 41 are aged under eight years. The club supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The out of school club employs seven members of staff. Of these three hold an appropriate early years qualification and one member is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted as the premises they access are maintained to a good standard of cleanliness. Children are aware of good hygiene procedures as they automatically wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet. The refurbished toilets, liquid soap and paper enhance this practise.

Several staff hold first aid certificates and there is a well stocked first aid box easily accessible. Written consent has been requested from parents to seek emergency treatment. This ensures that any accidents are dealt with effectively, with staff acting in the best interests of the child. All accidents that occur in the club are recorded and shared with parents and good procedures are in place to ensure parents are made fully aware of any accidents their child had whilst at school.

Children enjoy a light tea, which includes toast, crackers and a choice of spreads. They are provided with a variety of fresh fruit, which promotes healthy eating. Tea times are a sociable and relaxing occasion where children sit together and talk between themselves. Drinking water is available at all times, which children confidently help themselves too. Staff obtain information on children's allergies and dietary needs and these are fully taken into consideration and respected.

Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills and receive fresh air, as they have fun running around the playground and playing a variety of ball games.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children move around freely in a spacious classroom, which is well lit and of an appropriate temperature for the weather conditions. It is made welcoming for children with colourful posters and art work displays. Children access a good range of clean, safe resources which are laid out on tables and the carpet area in an attractive inviting manner for them.

There are effective procedures in place for taking and collecting children to and from the main school. Staff carry out regular risk assessments to reduce any hazards to children. Children are well supervised by staff who organise themselves well and children are escorted to the toilets. However, systems are not in place to fully ensure children's safety. For example, electric sockets do not have covers, the entrance door cannot be secured whilst children are inside, and there are no systems in place to enable staff to identify visitors or parents before they enter the classroom. Although staff are present when children play outdoors, it is not always easy to identify children who are attending the club and the playground gate is not kept fully secure whilst the club is in operation.

Children have a good understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a fire because staff practise these with them and they are discussed at circle time. Children's welfare is safeguarded by staff's knowledge of abuse and neglect and they have a clear understanding of procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive at the club happily and are greeted by friendly staff who make them feel very welcome. They are relaxed in the staff's presence and confident to approach them and express their needs. Children settle quickly and enthusiastically explore the wide range of play resources and equipment available to them. They very much enjoy playing with the Lego, making constructions and model cars, then making the Lego track to race them on. Children sit for lengthy periods drawing pictures with a good supply of writing resources and practising their cutting skills with scissors. They get great pleasure in making Christmas decorations with dough. Children play well together and happily take turns whilst playing board games and using the play station. Children appreciate the opportunities to play inside or outside and enjoy playing bat and ball games with staff. Children are very well supported by staff who are skilled at encouraging children to extend their experiences with the play resources and listening and talking to them.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff treat children as individuals and acknowledge differences and preferences. Children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are welcomed into the out of school club. Staff work closely with the parents and the school to ensure their needs are met and provide a fully inclusive environment. Suitable disabled toilet facilities are available should they be required.

Children have access to plenty of resources that reflect positive images of all aspects of society, which helps them to acknowledge and accept differences. Children develop an understanding of different cultural festivals through planned activities, such as making cards and lamps at Diwali and paper dragons at Chinese New Year. Children have equal access to all the resources and activities regardless of their gender.

Staff warmly greet parents on arrival and talk and listen to them about their children. Parents are provided with an information booklet about the out of school club which includes the complaint policy. Information for parents and the weekly plans are displayed on the notice board and wall for parents to view. The policies and procedures of the out of school club are available to parents.

Children behave well because they are kept busy and well occupied. Staff are extremely skilled at helping children to learn to share and be kind to each other. For example, through using props, such as puppets, to demonstrate this to them at circle time. Staff are good role models for children and talk to them in a calm and pleasant manner.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from a well managed, organised out of school club. Staff are deployed effectively and have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They are focused on supporting children in their play and provide a stimulating, relaxed environment for them.

There are regular opportunities for staff to meet together to discuss issues and ideas. There is an appraisal system in place to monitor staff's performance and they are encouraged to attend training to update their knowledge and childcare practice. Staff ratios are consistently maintained

and relevant strategies are in place to cover for staff absence, which ensures children are well cared for at all times. Applicants undergo rigorous checks to ensure they are suitable to work with children.

The policies and procedures are used to promote children's welfare and all required documentation is in place and well maintained. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection the toilets used by the children attending the out of school club have been refurbished to improve the standards of hygiene and systems are in place to keep the water at safe temperature for the children. This supports children's health and safety.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the 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 the building and the outside areas are fully secure and children are unable to leave them unsupervised. Also ensure there are effective systems in place for managing access to the building and children attending the out of school club are able to be easily identified whilst playing outside.
- make sure all electric sockets are made inaccessible to children

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