



## **Croydon Children's Club**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	124919
<b>Inspection date</b>	27 February 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Cheryl Walker
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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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Croydon Children's Club (Endeavour) is 1 of 5 after school clubs run by Croydon Children's Club. It opened in 1997 and operates from a scout hall in Norbury, London. The setting comprises a hall, kitchen and separate toilets for boys and girls. A maximum of 30 children may attend the after school care at any one time. The setting is open each weekday from 15:30 to 18:00 during term time and from 08:30 to 18:00 during school holidays.

There are currently 6 children aged from 5 to 8 years on roll. Children up to the age of 11 years also attend. The club is open to children who attend St James the Great

Primary School. A mini bus driven by staff, collects children from school and takes them to the club. The setting has achieved a level 1 (good) from the Aiming High Quality Assurance scheme, valid until 2007.

The provision employs 3 staff. All of the staff, including the manager hold an appropriate early years qualification. All staff hold a current first aid certificate.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children's health is protected as staff are first aid trained should a child require first aid treatment. All documentation for the recording of accidents and medicines are in place and well recorded. Children are cared for in a warm and clean environment, where they learn the importance of good hygiene and personal care. They know that they wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet and do so without the need to be prompted. However, suitable hand drying equipment is not consistently in place throughout the session.

Children benefit from having regular, healthy and nutritious snacks and drinks, which are adequate in quantities for their needs. Food is properly prepared and complies with dietary and religious requirements. Children contribute to ideas for the menu, which is displayed on the notice board and staff talk to them about healthy options to increase their understanding of a balanced diet. Children enjoy physical activities with equipment and team games to extend their physical skills.

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

The provision is good.

Children have access to a wide variety of appropriate resources and equipment that are well maintained and conform to safety standards. They are organised to create an accessible and stimulating environment where children can independently select activities.

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. Children have ample space to play and are able to move around safely, freely and independently because effective risk assessments take place regularly. Good door security systems are in place that protect children whilst on the premises. Children understand how to keep themselves safe and to maintain their own safety. For instance, they understand the reasons why they participate in regular fire drills, which heightens their awareness of procedures in the event of a fire.

Children's welfare and safety are given high priority and local child protection procedures are complied with. Children are well supervised by suitably qualified and experienced staff who have all undergone relevant vetting procedures.

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

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are well met and their welfare is promoted. Children are happy and busy and state that they enjoy their time at the club. Children feel at home in their club as they are welcomed with a good range of resources and planned activities and they know that they have complete freedom of choice.

Children have fun with imaginative play and co-operate with each other throughout the session. They can relax with quiet games or take part in more vigorous play. Behaviour is good and friendships are well formed. They chatter constantly in their play. Children's imagination and creativity are encouraged in craft activities. Children understand the rules and tell staff when they are upset or if things go wrong for them or if they need help.

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

The provision is good.

Children have access to a meaningful range of activities and resources to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase their awareness of diversity. Their understanding of other cultures is enhanced through activities planned around celebrations, for example, Chinese New Year.

There are no children currently attending that have identified special needs. Clear policies are in place to ensure children of all abilities are given fully inclusive care.

Children are helped to understand responsible behaviour. Staff reinforce appropriate strategies and involve children in the implementation of club rules. This approach encourages children to take responsibility for their actions and to work together harmoniously. Children are treated with respect and receive much praise and encouragement to promote their self-esteem.

Children benefit from positive relationships between their parents and staff that help them receive consistent care both individually and as a group. Information for parents is displayed on the group's notice board and they have access to the group's policies and procedures. Informal daily feedback ensures parents are kept informed of their children's day and messages from the school are passed on through the staff.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children feel at home and at ease in the well-organised environment. They are confident to initiate their own play and learning. Staff follow clear policies and procedures to promote the care and welfare of children. Parents are kept well informed about the service and their child's activities, which contributes to continuity in the children's care. Children are cared for by suitably qualified and experienced staff who have a good understanding of child development. Robust recruitment

procedures are in place to ensure staff are vetted appropriately.

The required records, policies and procedures which contribute to children's health, safety and welfare are all maintained. Policies and procedures work effectively because staff know them well. A pro-active approach to staff training ensures staff are up-to-date in their knowledge of childcare.

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

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

At the last inspection, the group were asked to make improvements to the arrangements for fire safety. There is now a written procedure for evacuating the building and fire equipment is checked regularly. This ensures staff and children are aware of what to do in an emergency and that fire fighting equipment is safe for use.

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

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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 children consistently have access to suitable hand drying facilities

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)