

Stapleford Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY286454
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Inspector	Emma Bright
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Registered person	Stapleford 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Stapleford Out of School Club is managed by a voluntary management committee, made up of parents of children at the club. It opened in 2004 and operates from Stapleford Community Primary School in the village of Stapleford, near Cambridge.

A maximum of 20 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open five days a week from 15:15 to 17:30 during school term times. All children have access to an outdoor play area. There are currently 43 children aged from four to 11 years on roll. Children come from the local area.

The club employs eight staff. Of these, four hold appropriate qualifications and one is currently working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are suitably nourished and they learn about making some healthy choices from the selection of snacks on offer. They enjoy pieces of fresh fruit and biscuits and they can help themselves to regular drinks throughout the session so that they remain hydrated. However, the organisation of snack time means children are not always reminded to wash their hands before eating and this affects their health. In addition, some children wander around with food and this means that they do not learn good eating habits. Appropriate procedures and record keeping systems ensure that children's individual dietary and medical needs are recognised and met.

Children enjoy a variety of physical activities, and make use of the outdoor area to participate in active games. They also take part in indoor activities such as completing obstacle courses, skipping and practising their gymnastic skills which they thoroughly enjoy. This helps them to enjoy exercise and develop their physical skills. Children develop manipulative dexterity in a sound range of craft and construction activities, which helps to develop their coordination.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's overall welfare is protected by suitable procedures and documents that promote their safety. For example, sound recording systems ensure that parents are informed of accidents or injuries their child sustains whilst at the setting. Staff have a sound understanding of child protection procedures and they are clear about acting in children's best interests in the event of concerns for their welfare. However, the child protection policy has not been updated, which means that staff cannot put the procedures into practice and this affects children's safety.

Children are cared for in a generally welcoming environment, where most risks are identified and minimised. This means they are able to move around safely under the supervision of the staff. However, the premises are not secure, which means that unsupervised access is not prevented and children can leave the building and outdoor area unattended. Children play with a satisfactory range of activities and resources. Resources and equipment are regularly checked by staff to ensure they are safe for children to use.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally confident and settled at the group; they participate in a satisfactory range of activities such as drawing, crafts and physical play. Children have the opportunity to relax and play with their friends at the club. Most of the equipment is laid out so that children can select some resources to support their play. However, the range of accessible activities and resources is limited which means that children less opportunities to decide about how they spend their time at the club.

Children are generally happy and settled, and form positive relationships with the staff. Children develop their imagination as they decorate bags and purses; they enjoy art and craft activities and demonstrate pride in their achievements readily displaying their creations for others to admire. Children enjoy each other's company and play happily together, sharing resources and

taking turns. They play with their chosen activity together or alongside staff, who listen to them and take time to engage them in conversation.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children generally behave well and demonstrate understanding of responsible behaviour; they make positive relationships with each other and the staff. Children play happily together and help to tidy up; they are learning how to share, take turns and negotiate for resources. Children have access to an adequate range of resources and activities which help them to develop positive attitudes towards diversity. There are appropriate systems in place to care for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

Children's individual needs are satisfactorily met as the setting gathers information from parents and this enables staff to provide the appropriate care. However, some children's records are incomplete and this potentially affects their safety and well-being. Children benefit from the friendly relationships between the staff and their parents. The sharing of some information helps the staff to provide suitable care to meet children's needs.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the system of ensuring staff working with children are vetted and suitable, recruitment procedures ensure staff have appropriate skills to work with children. Most staff hold appropriate qualifications which enable them to meet children's needs. Resources and the general environment are suitably organised so children have space to move around and play in safety.

Documentation that ensures children's health and safety is in place, such as parental consents and details of any medical needs, and is stored appropriately so it is easily accessible. Personal information is collected and stored with appropriate regard for confidentiality. All required policies and procedures are in place. However, some documentation is incomplete or out of date which potentially compromises children's welfare. Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to: develop staff's awareness of behaviour management; ensure good hygiene procedures are maintained and improve fire safety. Staff have improved their understanding of appropriate strategies to manage children's behaviour so that children understand responsible behaviour and fire safety procedures have been improved which means adults and children are kept safe in an emergency. Good hygiene procedures have not been effectively improved and this is reflected in this report.

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 satisfactory. 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):

- improve the organisation of snack time
- ensure the premises and outside play area are secure and children are not able to leave them unsupervised
- ensure that the child protection procedure complies with that of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Include procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer
- improve the range of accessible activities and resources so that children benefit from a rich choice of play opportunities
- ensure that all children's records are completed in full prior to them attending the club
- review and update documentation to ensure that the procedures for complaints and lost or uncollected children are complete, and improve the wording to the written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment to ensure it is clear.

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