

SAFA Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY270462
Inspection date	07 February 2008
Inspector	Christine Clint
Setting Address	St Andrews School, Nuthurst Street, Nuthurst, West Sussex, RH13 6LH
Telephone number	01403 891114
E-mail	
Registered person	SAFA 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?

The SAFA Club registered in 2003 and is run by a committee. It offers out of school care, term time only, at the end of the school day and is open from 15.30 to 18.00. The Club is located at St Andrews Church of England aided primary school in Nuthurst, West Sussex. The club is available to children who attend other schools, although transport is not provided.

The children have permanent use of a separate classroom adjacent to the school and they use the main playground which has an assault course. There is also a school field available for outside play. Three regular staff members and two bank staff care for the children on a rota basis. The manager and the deputy are qualified in child care and education, other staff hold or are working towards qualifications. Most of the staff hold first aid qualifications and have attended relevant short training sessions. There are 20 children on roll and at the time of the inspection seven children were present.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are following regular daily routines to maintain their health because staff remind and encourage hand washing, especially before sitting down to eat a tea time meal. All children manage their personal care independently and they recognise when they need more paper towels in the cloakroom. Children take part in the preparation for meal times and take turns to clean the tables with anti-bacterial spray. They wear aprons for craft activities and staff encourage them to dress appropriately for different temperatures; they take their coats off when they are sitting together for the meal.

Children's health is sufficiently maintained because staff show a clear awareness of individual health needs. Photographs and notices are displayed to ensure that all staff are aware of specific medical needs and thorough information is recorded about the treatment required. Staff understand the regulatory requirements regarding prior parental permission and recording any medication administered. A well stocked first aid kit is available and there is a trained staff member on duty most days. Accident records are in place but these are not signed by parents.

Children eagerly eat their pasta and sauce, they sit together and interact with staff and each other, the atmosphere is relaxed and informal. Children help themselves to water and talk about the food they have liked at the club. They are provided with healthy options and staff prepare a menu in advance. Children show interest and enjoyment in the food they have and some of them ask for more. They are encouraged to wash up following the meal and they take turns to carry out the chores.

Children do have daily opportunities for physical exercise and ample choice to follow their own needs for more strenuous play at the end of the school day. They use the school playground and the permanent apparatus, they often go out to play whatever the weather and have access to larger indoor areas in the school.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are safe and secure when they attend the out of school club because they remain in the school grounds and there is a secure, high gate and a keypad entry system. They use a dedicated classroom and have appropriate facilities to enable them to choose activities and to take part in indoor or outdoor play. Staff plan daily activities and rotate the play equipment to ensure that children have choice.

Children are protected from hazards because staff assess these and link with the school to ensure that any risks are recorded and managed appropriately. There are clearly written procedures for any lost or uncollected children and parents have arranged a password system. Children frequently practise fire drills and records are available to show their timed exit from the premises. All visitors to the club are recorded and timed on the premises.

Children's welfare is maintained because staff have knowledge and understanding of procedures to safeguard children; some staff have attended training and a policy is in place. However, this does not include the regulatory procedures to follow any allegations against staff and currently staff do not record any injuries that children have on arrival or have sustained from school.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very happy and comfortable in the club, they know that they can make their own decisions about play and taking part in activities; they show that they have developed a relaxed and informal relationship with the staff. Children use the white board to play word games with staff, they use hand held computer games and talk about the scores they have achieved. They recognise the need to take turns with the main computer and talk about their passwords, they also share the playstation equipment and staff monitor the time they spend on this activity. Staff encourage children to use the digital camera when they have set up the dolls house beautifully and children practise taking photographs; they follow staff guidance and proudly show the pictures. Children use paints and talk about what colours they need for the craft activity. They develop their own role play game and pretend to be teachers, explaining spelling and writing on the white board. Children introduce rules into their pretend play and talk about star charts.

Children go outside to play before it is dark, they climb and balance on the 'trim trail' wooden climbing apparatus and play football. They use skipping ropes and play with the remote control car when a new battery is inserted. Children say they enjoy playing on the field in the summer and they can remember playing with bubbles and making dens outside.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children's attendance at the after school club is supported by parents who need the facility and show that they are very satisfied with the relaxed atmosphere and choice for children. Parents are provided with information on the club notice board and they can read the policies and procedures in place. All parents have written information about the club, the times, cost and availability. There is a clear policy for recording and managing any complaints about the provision; parents have opportunities to write their comments or concerns. Contracts are in place with all parents and collection procedures are noted. Staff show a strong awareness of maintaining confidentiality, they know all children and families well.

Children behave well and politely ask if they can carry out an activity before they begin, their behaviour is monitored during the session and staff listen and respond well; they sometimes remind older children to interact appropriately at times. The club has a star chart to measure children's achievements and staff suggest that they too, can have stars for mending the remote control car; the children readily agree. Children are encouraged to take part with washing and drying the utensils after eating and they have a rota to share these responsibilities.

Children show that they value each other through their inclusive attitude towards taking turns with all activities and sharing. They know each other well because they all attend the school and there are close links with many families. The club provides facilities and play resources for a wide age range and staff ensure that the activities available can be adapted and enjoyed by all school age children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care and the daily operation of the after school club is well organised. There are clear procedures in place for checking all new staff and committee members; all records are held and

available. The registration certificate is displayed and the club has a notice board for sharing information with parents; policies and procedures have been developed to provide routines to manage the club and there are close links with the school and the community. There are good levels of qualified staff employed to care for children, although a first aid trained member of staff is not present for one of the club days. Children and staff attendance is rigorously recorded and times are noted. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the providers were asked to ensure that the cords from window blinds do not cause a hazard to children. All cords attached to the blinds are securely wound around cleats at each window, therefore children are safely protected from the risk of entanglement.

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):

- ensure that a member of staff who is trained in first aid is present at every club session
- ensure that all accident records are signed by parents
- extend the child protection policy to include procedures to be followed if there are any allegations against staff.

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