

Jack in The Box 2004

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY340319
Inspection date	03 June 2008
Inspector	Kristin Hatherly
Setting Address	Whitehills Primary School, Acre Lane, NORTHAMPTON, NN2 8DF
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Registered person	Maureen Cross
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?

Jack in The Box is one of two after school clubs. It opened in 2006 and operates from a classroom in Whitehills Primary School, in the Kingsthorpe area of Northampton. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

A maximum of 20 children may attend the club at any one time and there are currently 28 children under eight on roll who attend for a variety of sessions. The after school club is open each weekday from 15:15 to 17:45 during the school term only. Children attend from the school.

The after school club employs two staff, one of whom holds an appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are developing good hygiene practices, as they wash their hands after visiting the toilet and before snacks. This sustains the level of hygiene and helps to prevent the spread of

infection. Children receive appropriate care in the event of minor accidents or illness because the manager holds an up-to-date first aid qualification and there is a first aid kit readily accessible. However, the permission for emergency medical advice or treatment signed by parents is not clearly worded.

Children gain an awareness of the role of healthy eating in developing their good health and growth as they are provided with a variety of nutritious and well-balanced snacks, such as pasta bakes, toast with a variety of spreads and fresh fruit. Children have access to fresh drinking water at all times. As a result children are thoroughly hydrated and comfortable.

Children have regular access to both an outdoor grassed play area and the school playground where they benefit from fresh air and exercise. They play team games, such as football where they develop their large muscles and co-ordination.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in clean and well-maintained premises where their safety is promoted well. Space and resources are organised to allow children to move around comfortably and participate in a wide range of activities. Children choose what to play with from a wide range of good quality toys and interesting activities that meet their play and development needs well. Suitable measures are in place to ensure children are safe and to prevent accidents. Children are well supervised both in and outside because sufficient staff are deployed effectively. Fire drills are practised regularly and recorded appropriately.

Children are protected from harm or neglect because staff have satisfactory knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse, and the correct procedure to follow if they are concerned about a child. Children are further protected and their welfare is promoted through regular risk assessments of activities, equipment and premises. Generally, the required procedures and documents are in place to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children spoken to stated that they enjoy their time at the club. They participate in a wide range of stimulating games and activities that meet their social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs well. They are encouraged to be involved in the organisation of the club as staff consult and involve them. Children express themselves creatively as they engage in craft activities using a range of media, such as felt tip pens and paint. They share and take turns appropriately, for example, as they use the games consoles and dance mats. Children's need for active or quiet play are well catered for. The room is organised to allow them to play quietly or engage in more active play both inside and outdoors.

Children benefit from warm, friendly interaction with staff who know them well and spend most of their time playing with and talking to the children. Children are valued by staff who show interest in their games and activities and interact with the children very well.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have limited resources to promote diversity and disability. They are valued and respected as individuals and are fully included in the life of the setting. However, their culture and religion is not recorded to enable staff to give appropriate care.

The club understands their obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act and is proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken to support children with identified needs. As a result children receive appropriate support.

Children know what is expected of them and respond well to staff. They enjoy warm interaction with staff who play with them, have good opportunities to make choices and receive regular praise and support. As a result, children are well behaved.

The partnership with parents and carers is satisfactory. Parents are provided with information through a prospectus at the start of the child's time at the club and verbal feedback is given when children are collected. Policies are available to parents and there is a complaints policy.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from the effective organisation of the space and resources both indoors and in the outdoor area so that they can make choices and develop their ideas as they play. Children's welfare, care and safety are promoted because staff have undergone appropriate vetting procedures to ensure they are suitable to work with children. Furniture, space and resources are organised to allow children to participate comfortably in active or quiet play. The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. Resources and equipment are organised to promote children's safety, welfare and development.

Generally, records, policies and procedures required for the safe and efficient management of the club are well maintained and therefore promote the children's welfare. Staff and children's attendance is recorded daily. Overall the needs of the children are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 permission for emergency medical advice and treatment is clear to parents
- ensure children's records contain information which enables appropriate care to be given with regard to culture and religion
- continue to develop resources that reflect diversity particularly with regard to disability.

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