

Jelly Beans Holiday Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY356582
Inspection date	05 August 2008
Inspector	Susan Marriott
Setting Address	The Leslie Sell Scout Activity Centre, Molivers Lane, Bromham, BEDFORD, MK43 8LD
Telephone number	07790031394
E-mail	julie.murphey7@ntlworld.com
Registered person	Julie Ann Lawrence
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?

Jelly Beans Holiday Club is one of six settings which are privately owned. The club was re-registered in 2007 and operates from two rooms in a building used for youth activities in the village of Bromham, near Bedford. Children have access to a secure outdoor play area. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open Monday to Friday each school holiday except Christmas, including half-term weeks. Opening hours are from 08.00 to 18.00.

There are currently 50 children on roll. The children who attend come from the local area and the villages around Bedford. The club is able to support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and is also able to support children who speak English as a second language.

All staff hold early years qualifications and work during term time in other provisions owned by the proprietor. The number of staff on duty depends on the number of children booked into the group. The play scheme receives support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is suitably promoted because staff follow clear hygiene routines. For example, they use separate cleaning cloths and antibacterial spray to clean tables before and after serving food. Children learn good hygiene routines as staff remind them to wash their hands before they sit down for snack and after visiting the toilet. Appropriate systems are in place to record accidents and the administration of medication in order to promote children's welfare. The first aid boxes are accessible. However, a few of the dressings exceed the use by date and cannot be guaranteed sterile. This presents the potential for cross-infection. A member of staff with a suitable first aid qualification is always on the premises and written parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment is in place for every child. This enables the staff to secure appropriate treatment in the event of a serious medical emergency.

Children have exceptional opportunities to participate in regular physical play. On a daily basis, the club takes children outside to take full advantage of the secured woodland area, where there are quiet seating areas, a vast playing field and assault course, which comprises part of the scout site accommodation. Planned activities and available equipment provide frequent opportunities for active play indoor or outdoors.

Children make healthy choices as they make their selection from an extensive breakfast and snack menu which includes a choice of juices and hot drinks such as tea, coffee, and chocolate. They may choose from fruit, yoghurt, cereal, bagel, pancake, crumpet, beans on toast and a variety of sandwiches. Fresh fruit is always available and staff make every effort to include children's expressed preferences. Children's health and dietary needs are met because satisfactory systems are in place to work with parents to identify any individual needs and to ensure staff awareness.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The club environment is very welcoming for children, being clean and well-maintained. Staff greet the children warmly on arrival at the club, and do all they can to ensure that children are happy, comfortable and settled. Children have access to a suitable range of toys and equipment and there are generous amounts of quality play resources available to meet the developmental needs of the ages of children in attendance.

Children are very safe and well supervised. The main entrance to the club is secure, admittance being gained by a buzzer system and invitation by staff. The staff can see clearly who is arriving through the glass panelled doors and are clear about checking the identity of any strangers. Visitors must produce identity documentation and sign the visitor records and doors are fully secured. Staff know what to do in an emergency and drills are practised with appropriate frequency to secure the safety of children. Vigorous risk assessments and frequent physical checks of the environment, activities and resources, ensure children's total well-being. Written health and safety procedures are effectively implemented. Staff discuss safety with the children in order for them to develop a suitable understanding of relevant issues. For example, staff discuss taking care to stay together whilst in the woods. Staff show appropriate awareness of supervision issues to ensure children's safety. For example, although children visit the toilets

unescorted, staff do watch children leave and check their return. This constantly monitors and minimises potential risk to children.

Children's welfare is well-protected because the adults looking after them are confident about putting safeguarding procedures into practice. The written policy contains a clear statement about the procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children spend a relaxed and enjoyable time at this friendly and welcoming holiday club where they can join in crafts, sport, fun and play whilst meeting friends and relaxing in a happy environment. Staff ensure that they provide a wide range of fun activities for the children and publish a seasonal planning sheet which is suitably flexible according to the choices of children and the constraints of the weather. The radio plays softly providing pleasant background noise. Staff are very attentive towards the children and keen to make the club a success. Staff interact with the children in positive ways and the managers provide a good role model for other staff, using friendly discussions and showing an interest in the children in order to help them feel valued and part of the setting. Children are settled because they have good relationships with the staff who work hard to keep them sufficiently occupied, by giving them lots of attention and encouraging them to explore the toys, activities and resources which are available to them.

Children have easy access to a variety of enjoyable play opportunities that are of high quality, fun, safe, inclusive and that actively contribute to their learning and development. All resources are age-appropriate and accessible on shelves or in drawers. Children confirm that they make their own choices and can decide whether they want to participate in boisterous sports, creative activities or quieter pursuits. Plans and observations show the children cooking, constructing with bricks, playing video games and participating in role play. During the inspection, children were making a life size model of a robot with empty boxes. Despite the rain, staff cheerfully ensure that children put on their coats and boots and take them into the woods for a game of 'Hide and seek' in two teams called 'cats' and 'dogs'. The children have enormous fun, trekking through the undergrowth in search of the opposing team. They have to listen carefully for the whistle signals and watch carefully for any glimpse of a brightly coloured coat. On the way back to the club centre, they stop to eagerly check their mini-beast traps for signs of new inhabitants.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children join in, take responsibility and play a productive part in the club because they are actively involved in setting rules, discussing activities and making choices about what they want to do. For example, a talent contest entitled 'Jellybeans got talent' was organised in response to a suggestion made by the children. The show opened with a member of staff singing a popular song and the children dancing. Staff evaluate activities and note how helpful and willing the children are with domestic tasks. Comments such as 'being proud of the children's behaviour' following a visit by the fire service, show how staff value the children as individuals. Sometimes the children are rewarded with a treat. Children feel a sense of belonging within the club, effectively promoted by the generally good quality of staff interaction.

No children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities currently attend the club although there is a written statement in place to support any children who may attend in the future and some staff have received training in this area of expertise. Children behave appropriately considering their stage of development and respond positively to the clear expectations of staff. Suitable systems are in place to foster appropriate working relations with parents in order to promote continuity of care for children. Various notices and information for parents is set out on the club notice board. Parents are strongly encouraged to express their views and opinions via questionnaires and a suitable complaints process is in place. This means that the partnership with parents is working well to meet the needs of the children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

This is a well-organised and well-prepared service, delivering high quality play to meet the needs of the children. Recruitment and induction procedures are appropriately strong and ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Policies and procedures promote children's safety and welfare effectively. The joint managers have complementary skills and are highly committed, suitably experienced and appropriately qualified. They have an increasing knowledge and understanding of the National Standards and the key elements of quality play experiences. Senior management supervision is provided through daily visits from the nearby day nursery manager and her deputy. Effective self-evaluation systems enable staff to consistently reflect upon their daily practice and improve the service for children and their parents. Staff are appropriately experienced and qualified and have a clear understanding of their role and responsibilities. Generous numbers of staff are employed to meet and exceed the required adult to child ratios to ensure children's safety and to give appropriate support. Systems for recording the hours of attendance of children and staff are suitably robust to ensure the safety of all. Registration forms with children's names, addresses and date of birth are completed for every child on roll and the parental permission section is always appropriately completed to clarify parents wishes for the care of their child. Children relish their time at the setting and are keen to attend. Overall, children's needs 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 that the contents of the first aid boxes are checked frequently and replaced as necessary.

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