

# Clockwise After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique Reference Number** EY361808

**Inspection date** 11 April 2008

**Inspector** Angela Dyer

**Setting Address** Focus Leisure & Community Centre, Turves Green, Northfield,  
Birmingham, B31 4BP

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**Registered person** Longbridge Childcare Strategy Group

**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](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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Clockwise After School Club originally opened in 1998 and re-registered under new ownership in 2007. The club is managed by Longbridge Childcare Strategy Group and is situated within the grounds of Turves Green Girls School, Birmingham. Children have access to a large hall, quiet room and small outside space.

The club is open each weekday from 15:10 to 18.00, term time only. The club is available for children living in the local area.

A maximum of 40 children may attend the setting at any one time. There are currently 50 children aged from four to 11 years on roll. The setting is able to support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

The setting employs four staff. Three of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff are active in promoting good hygiene and on arrival to the club all children wash their hands before having snack, understanding the reasons for doing this. Effective procedures are in place to minimise the possible spread of infections, including children being provided with soap and paper towels for hand drying. Accident recording procedures are effective and a number of staff have attended first aid training to ensure that they are able to deal with minor accidents effectively.

The hall in which children are cared for is spacious and allows children the room to play physical games in all weathers including football and skipping. The club also has access to a small enclosed outside area where children benefit from having fresh air. Children's physical development is well supported by staff and this contributes to a healthy lifestyle. However, staff also acknowledge that children have had a busy day at school and respect that some children may choose to sit in the quiet room where they are able to watch films, read or chat to their friends.

Staff find out about children's needs by talking to parents and recording details of specific requirements or allergies. Whilst at the club children are provided with drinks and fresh fruit, although some children bring in their own snacks. Drinks are readily available throughout the session for children to help themselves to, therefore ensuring that they remain hydrated.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff have a suitable understanding of how to keep children safe and carry out visual safety checks of the premises on a daily basis. Staff record safety issues identified within the setting and raise them with the persons responsible for the building, however, issues in relation to the excessive heating in the building and outstanding fire safety recommendations have not yet been fully addressed therefore placing children at potential risk. Staff are confident of the fire evacuation procedures, however, drills are not completed regularly to ensure that all children are aware of the actions to take in the event of a fire.

The premises are secure and only authorised persons have entry, children are closely supervised when playing inside and outside to ensure their safety. All children are escorted by staff to the club to ensure their safe arrival. Staff have an appropriate understanding of child protection issues including possible signs of abuse and neglect. However, the policy contains insufficient information about the procedures which would be taken in the event of an allegation being made against staff members which in turn could compromise children's safety.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled benefiting from being cared for by friendly staff. Children are consulted about what they want to do throughout their time at the club and are encouraged to make suggestions about the types of activities that they would like to see more of. Staff demonstrate a good understanding of the children's needs, likes and interests. Staff interact positively with the children and show enjoyment in their company, as they join in with activities.

Children have access to the main hall and quiet room where they are able to look at books, watch television and play on the games console. Other activities offered include art and craft activities, board games, planting, table football and physical games. Children speak positively of the club and how they look forward to meeting their friends there and joining in with the activities on offer.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children in the club are happy, settled and confident in expressing their needs and preferences. Children are treated and respected as individuals and have suitable opportunities to learn about themselves and others through planned and spontaneous activities. The setting provides an inclusive service where staff work closely with each other and parents to ensure that they meet individual children's needs.

Staff implement a calm and consistent approach to managing children's behaviour. They encourage children to take responsibility for their own behaviour by supporting them in agreeing the club rules. Children's behaviour is rewarded through verbal praise and the effective use of a behaviour reward chart. Children's behaviour is good and they are learning to negotiate and compromise as staff give them time and space to try and sort out any disagreements for themselves, dependent on age and levels of maturity.

Staff encourage positive partnerships with parents. They make time each day to talk to parents about what their child has been doing, as well as passing on messages from school. Children benefit from this open communication because all their carers are fully informed of any issues. Parents' views and concerns are respected and acknowledged by the staff team.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment by friendly staff, with whom they have established positive relationships with. Staff are suitably qualified and effective recruitment procedures ensure that staff are appropriately vetted. Ratios for children under eight years are maintained and contingency plans are in place to cover staff absences. However, staff have not given sufficient thought to the care of children over eight years and how this is managed in terms of staffing. As a result the care of children aged over eight years may have an adverse impact on younger children receiving the correct level of staffing and attention.

Children's health and welfare are promoted through written policies and procedures held by the club. Daily documents are kept close to hand to ensure they can be easily used and updated, while confidentiality is maintained by ensuring parents only see records relating to their own children. 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 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 the care provided for children aged over eight years is not allowed to adversely affect the care provided for children under eight-years-old
- comply with recommendations made by the Fire Safety Officer and ensure that fire drills are carried out regularly
- ensure that rooms are maintained to an adequate and appropriate temperature
- ensure child protection policies and procedures reflect current legislation and include the procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against members of 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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)