

4Children Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY345956
Inspection date	15 April 2008
Inspector	Thecla Grant
Setting Address	New Beverley Children's Centre, Bismark Drive, Leeds, LS11 6TB
Telephone number	02075 122 112
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Registered person	4 Children (Kid's Clubs Networks)
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?

4Children's Out of School Club is an out of school provision run by 4Children Kid's Clubs Networks. It opened in 2007 and operates from a purpose built room within New Bewerley Children's Centre. It is situated in the Beeston area of Leeds. A maximum of 40 children may attend the out of school club at any one time. The out of school club is open each weekday from 08.00 to 09.00 then from 15.00 until 18.00 all year round. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 25 children aged from three to under five years on roll. Children attending come from the school within the New Bewerley Children's centre, St Luke's and St Francis school. The out of school club currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties.

The out of school club employs five members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is satisfactorily promoted through a range of appropriate actions. For example, children's dietary needs are recorded and shared with the practitioners who prepare tea. Children are encouraged to eat healthy and nutritious foods at tea time and have some opportunities to help with the preparation. Their health is further promoted through healthy eating projects. This is positively reflected through the five a day display of the children's artwork. Meal times are a relaxed social occasion when children sit together around the table to enjoy their food and each other's company. However, opportunities are missed for children to serve themselves and water is not consistently accessible. Therefore, children are not able to independently help themselves.

Positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection by keeping the premises clean. The children are effectively taught simple hygiene practices and discuss in detail how to wash their hands properly. Practitioners follow current and appropriate environmental health and hygiene guidelines, policies and procedures. For example, the setting has clear policies about children who are sick and records are kept of all accidents in the setting. Practitioners are trained in administering first aid and appropriate permissions and records are in place with regard to the administration of medication to children. As a result, children are well taken care of if they become ill or have an accident in the setting.

Children have very good opportunities to play outdoors with the resources provided. For example, they enjoy playing with the bats and balls. Some children play football and chasing games. Others throw the ball to each other, or practise their basket ball skills by bouncing the ball. Children thoroughly enjoy the fresh air and each others company.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm and welcoming environment. Their art work is attractively displayed on the walls and resources are easily accessible for them to play with. However, the temperature of the room is not maintained at an adequate temperature. As a result, the play room is too hot for the children to fully enjoy active play or relaxing activities.

Systems are in place to make sure children are secure on the premises. For example, children must be signed in and out of the provision by the adult caring for them. The entrance to the out of school club is electronic and mostly monitored by an adult. However, on two occasions children released the door so parents could enter.

Practitioners conduct risk assessments before the children arrive. However, the risk assessment forms are not consistently followed or recorded. As a result, checks, such as covers for all low electric sockets are not fully completed. The breakfast club has a joint emergency evacuation practise during with the school. However, children who attend after school miss out on the full practise.

Children are protected because practitioners fully understand their role in child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice. As a result, children are effectively safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children who access the out of school club confidently come into the session and choose what they want to play with. For example, they have fun completing the body puzzle, they fit the pieces together making mismatched shapes. Two children play an active game of 'air slammer' they enjoy trying to score goals against each other. Once they finish this game they play outdoors in the fresh air.

A small group of children decide to make 'light sabres'. The younger children who are unable to get the correct shape, are supported by practitioners. Once they roll the paper into the appropriate shape the children choose what colour they want and decorate their sabres. Children play at this activity for a good period of time.

Play opportunities allow children to use their imagination, but are not effectively implemented into the planning or extended appropriately.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by practitioners who suitably work with parents to meet the individual needs of their children. For example, parents receive newsletters about what is happening at the out of school club. They have access to the policies and procedures and share information about their children that will help practitioners to care for them effectively. As a result, children have a sense of belonging.

Appropriate systems are in place to care for children with learning difficulties. For example, the inclusion policy has been devised and information on the disability and discrimination act is in place. Practitioners have suitable experience in caring for children with learning difficulties and disabilities and resources that positively reflect disability are provided, but not readily accessible.

The children become aware of the wider society through resources provided and through the celebration of different festivals. For example, they celebrate Chinese New Year and Easter. The behaviour management policy is suitably implemented and children have an appropriate understanding of this. As a result, they have an awareness of the boundaries set and expectations within the setting.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Recruitment and vetting procedures appropriately contribute to children being protected. For example, all practitioners are appropriately vetted. However, this information is generally kept at the head office in London.

Practitioners have appropriate knowledge and understanding of child development. They have a commitment to continual improvement, and with this regard, have attended training courses, such as health and safety training, child protection training and food hygiene training.

Practitioners have an appropriate understanding of the adult-child ratio and consistently adhere to it. They make good use of the space provided to ensure children's care, learning and play is appropriately supported.

All policies and procedures are in place. These work in practice to promote children's health, enjoyment and ability to make a positive contribution. However, record keeping lacks consistency. For example, the fire drill is not recorded and the accident book is not appropriately signed.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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):

- provide opportunities for children to access water freely and to serve themselves independently at tea time
- consistently implement the risk assessments to positively promote safety and security within the setting and make sure the play room is maintained at an adequate temperature
- make sure fire drills are recorded and all accidents are signed by parents.

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