

Stay 2 Play Ltd

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY356558
Inspection date	04 June 2008
Inspector	Joan, Patricia Flowers
Setting Address	St. Aidans School, Larch Grove, Bamber Bridge, PRESTON, PR5 6GX
Telephone number	01772 337321
E-mail	lesleysaint@msn.com
Registered person	Stay 2 Play Ltd
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?

Stay 2 Play Ltd out of school club opened in 2007 and is run by a committee. It operates from the main hall in St Aidan's Church of England Primary School in Bamber Bridge near Preston. Children have access to an outdoor play area. A maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. There are 28 children on roll aged between four and 11 years, 13 of whom are under eight years. The group is open each weekday from 07.55 to 09.00 and 15.25 to 18.00 during term time only. The out of school club primarily serves the children attending the school. The committee employs three staff to work with the children; all three hold appropriate play work qualifications. Support and training is accessed from the local authority and the setting is a member of 4Children, an association supporting out of school settings.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children play and are cared for in clean environment and learn the importance of good personal hygiene. They wash their hands after coming into the club from school, before they eat their afternoon snack and are reminded by staff not to forget to wash their hands after visiting the

toilet. The risk of cross-infection is therefore reduced and children are encouraged to develop their own good habits.

Because half the staff in the club are trained in first aid, children's health and well-being are supported well. This means they can give appropriate care if there is an accident. Parents give prior written consent for staff to administer prescribed medication and any self-held medication, such as inhalers, is overseen and monitored to ensure children's health. The accident record is completed fully and parents are promptly informed of any accidents that occur. Procedures to deal with any medical emergencies are well laid out in the club's clear written policies. Children regularly enjoy a range of activities that contributes to their health as they develop their increasing physical skills indoors and outside. They demonstrate a good sense of space, using the areas to good effect as they move around choosing their activities with confidence. Children have opportunities to rest as they sit on the floor or at tables, or outside on the grass and the wooden seats.

Staff obtain all relevant information regarding each child's dietary requirements and medical history. Staff all have a good knowledge of the children because most work in the school during the day. This enables children's individual needs to be met very well. Children benefit from the healthy selection of foods that is offered to them whilst attending the club. They enjoy eating cereals and toast for breakfast before school if they wish, and snacks each evening, such as pancakes and a selection of fresh fruit, including plums, grapes, nectarines and oranges. This allows children to satisfy their hunger and provides them with the energy to gain benefit from their school day and the club's afternoon activities. Trying different and new tastes encourages children to develop healthy eating practices and encourages a willingness to try new things. Fresh drinking water is available at all times. This encourages children to think about their personal needs and to be independent. The choice of milk, water or sugar-free juice at set times is available.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in an environment where their safety is a high priority. Their welfare is further safeguarded because the staff are secure in their understanding of child protection procedures and of any action that they would need to take should they become concerned about a child's safety. Movement in and out of the club is monitored particularly well as the staff are vigilant when answering the door or releasing children to any person not known to them. Children move freely and safely between activities when playing inside. This is due to the well organised and planned environment, offering children opportunities to make decisions when choosing their activities. There are risk assessments carried out to ensure that children are kept safe, both indoors and outside, and emergency drills are undertaken very regularly. Children told the inspector that they must not walk about with scissors because they might hurt themselves or someone else. In these ways children are developing their understanding of both their own safety and that of others very well.

The children are cared for in an effective and planned environment where supervision is effectively managed so that children are kept safe at all times. Staff monitor children in a discreet way when they ask to go to the toilet so their privacy and dignity are maintained by thoughtful supervision. Children can access the available range of safe and appropriate resources and equipment easily because these are well presented in the setting. This allows children to develop their own ideas, be independent and have equality of opportunity. However, there is a lack of available comfortable seating for children to rest and relax on. Children's sense of

belonging is encouraged and promoted because of the familiarity of the school surroundings and the strong relationships fostered with staff.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are settled and relaxed. They gain confidence through consistent routines and close relationships with the friendly and caring staff team, who are all well aware of each child's needs. Children across the age range enjoy a varied selection of activities that are stimulating and well balanced to support their learning and enjoyment in this play-based out of school setting. Younger children are supported well as they share and are involved in activities alongside older children. Examples of activities enjoyed by the children during the inspection included creating Father's Day bookmarks and cards, participating in construction activities, completing puzzles, discovering a new board game, writing and being supported when completing homework, dressing up and role playing with the princess castle and dolls.

Children have good opportunities to participate in physical play and challenges inside and outside. They organise and play games such as bowling and practise dance moves on the dance mat. They demonstrate good hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness and are developing their large and fine motor skills. Children's creative and imaginative development is encouraged through planned activities such as art and crafts, painting, role-play, cookery and music. For example, children have made peace bracelets, Advent calendars, Valentine's Day cards and Easter baskets containing individually-made woollen chicks that children created from learning how to thread wool through a cardboard ring.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff all demonstrate a positive attitude towards diversity and are good role models, helping children learn the importance of showing respect for all. There is a good range of activities and resources available that provides children with a positive outlook on the wider world, and staff encourage all children to participate in the activities provided. This ensures children have equal opportunities to maximise their enjoyment and potential. Staff would offer good support for children with learning difficulties or disabilities because they are experienced in their roles within school. Activities can be adapted appropriately so that all children are able to experience a range of stimulating activities suitable for their level of ability.

Children behave very well towards one another and have good trusting relationships with the staff. Children are heard frequently to use good manners, saying please and thank you at snack times as they pass the plate of fruit to one another. Staff make their expectations of behaviour clear and set consistent boundaries for children, which enables them to learn to negotiate with others and take responsibility for their own behaviour and actions. Children are developing an understanding of right and wrong and are given the time and opportunity for reflection when they present with challenging behaviour. The use of praise and encouragement effectively reinforces good behaviour.

The partnership with parents is good. Parents provide appropriate and relevant information about their children to the staff. This helps to ensure children receive individual care and attention. Parents express their satisfaction with the service they receive and good friendly relationships are very evident. The open door policy and the availability of written information

about the club provides a good base on which to inform and promote good partnership with parents, leading to better outcomes for children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from a well-organised environment where they receive good and knowledgeable adult support, helping them to feel secure and confident. There are effective recruitment procedures in place ensuring that all adults working with children are suitable to do so. Existing staff know and understand the club's policies and procedures so children's safety and welfare are assured, however the current induction process for new staff is not recorded as part of the employment process. There are suitable contingency plans in place to cover for absences to ensure children always have appropriate supervision. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities well, and work very well as a team. This provides stability and reassurance to children and their parents and carers. The manager is proactive in overseeing the ongoing development of the club and actively encourages staff to attend training.

All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place, having recently been reviewed by the new management team. Record keeping is of a good standard so children's needs are effectively met.

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 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):

- provide some soft seating facilities so that children can play and rest comfortably
- develop a formal induction procedure for use with new staff, students or volunteers.

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