

# Cool Kids Out Of School Ltd

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique Reference Number** EY361472

**Inspection date** 19 May 2008

**Inspector** Julie Firth

**Setting Address** St. Michaels Primary School, The Grove, Flixton, Manchester, Lancashire,  
M41 6JB

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**Registered person** Cool Kids Out Of School 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](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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Cool Kids was re-registered in 2007 and was previously known as Kids Mix. It is run by Cool Kids Out of School Ltd. The setting operates from the school hall of St Michaels Primary School in Flixton, Manchester. Children have access to the outdoor playground and fields.

Children from St Michael's school attend. The setting is open each week day from 15.30 to 17.45, term time only. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. There are currently 20 children on roll. The club employs two staff, of these one holds an appropriate early years qualification. Another member of staff is currently working towards a recognised award. The operational manager oversees the out of school club and additional staff are available.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children clearly understand good health and hygiene practices and they all wash their hands before handling food and after using the bathroom. Children are well protected from illness and infection because the staff conscientiously follow current and appropriate environmental

health and hygiene guidelines. Furthermore, there is an effective sick children's policy in place and staff follow correct procedures if a child becomes unwell during the session. Staff are suitably qualified in first aid to enable them to appropriately treat children with minor injuries. They do obtain prior consent from parents for emergency advice and treatment.

Children understand the importance of having regular drinks to stay hydrated, as they help themselves to the jugs of water available at each session. A member of staff has undertaken a food hygiene certificate. Children enjoy nutritious snacks and written menus indicate children have a good choice of fresh foods, such as cheese and crackers, breadsticks and fruit. Children have a choice of a variety of cereals during the breakfast session. Snack times are happy social occasions where children relax and enjoy each other's company. The children's dietary requirements are met well as staff work with parents in finding out their child's requirements and respectfully follow these.

Daily indoor activities, such as dancing to music, help children develop physical skills and promote a healthy lifestyle. They make good use of the school playground and fields as children gain confidence and test out their coordination and organisation skills in team games, such as football and basketball, and climb through the tyres. Furthermore, a wide variety of outdoor equipment, such as bats balls and skipping ropes, are accessible outside.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming and stimulating environment. They play safely in well maintained premises. The hall is organised appropriately to allow children to access different play areas. They confidently choose from a wide range of toys and equipment that are age appropriate. They develop independence as equipment is easily accessed on low tables, open cupboards or at floor level around the room. Children confidently ask for toys that are not out. The resources are clean, safe and well maintained to ensure the children's safety.

Children move around in a safe environment where risks are identified and minimised. The manager liaises with the school and responds quickly to any maintenance requests. Children are aware of the procedures when leaving their classrooms and there are good procedures for signing children in and out of the club. Children have opportunities to practise fire drills, reminding them what to do in the event of a fire or an emergency evacuation. Staff complete daily risk assessments to monitor the safety of the premises and are vigilant when older children arrive from the classrooms. Younger children are brought in by their classroom teacher and greeted by the staff of cool kids. Staff have a list of the children attending each night and immediately check if the children have not been signed in. Furthermore a lost children's policy is in place and understood by all staff. Children are aware of their boundaries and understand that if they go and play on the school fields, they must be in eye shot or supervised by the staff.

Children's welfare is protected because staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. A detailed child protection policy is in place in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The operational manager of the two clubs ensures that any recent legislation is cascaded to the staff and they keep up to date with training.

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

The provision is good.

There are good relationships throughout the setting producing a harmonious and happy environment. Children know each other from school and enjoy the chance to chill out during the session. Staff listen to the children and talk to them about their school day. They ask questions and encourage them to include each other as they play. Staff provide good levels of support to the children and are keen to join in with indoor and outdoor games. Older children take delight in looking after younger children, helping them to settle and become confident.

Children are motivated in a good balance of adult and child-led opportunities. They are asked to contribute to the devised plans which are evaluated after the session. This ensures that children take part in activities that they enjoy. They participate in decorating biscuits, construction, a large amount of arts and crafts, painting, baking and use the computer. Some become engrossed in a game of twister, while others play a game of pool. Their imaginative development is promoted as they make a den out of chairs and a blanket and they use the play tents during role play. All board games encourage the taking of turns. Children talk positively about their experiences and objects when their parents come to pick them up and are keen to speak to visitors about the great fun they have in the club.

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

The provision is good.

Children access a suitable selection of resources that reflect equality of opportunity. They learn about the Jewish community and talk about the celebration of Christmas. However, planning of activities to promote diversity is in the early stages and is not fully developed. The staff are aware of children's individual needs and thrive to ensure that all children can join in and have fun. They work well with the outside agencies and the parents and regularly report progress. Children are well behaved and they are aware that certain rules and respect are required to maintain a safe and fair environment where they can play happily and have fun. The staff are good role models. They speak calmly and quietly to the children and have good strategies in place for achieving appropriate behaviour. Staff promote children's self-esteem and confidence as they praise their efforts and an effective reward system is in place. Children who behave well, constantly help others and take on responsibilities are praised. Behaviour of concern is monitored and staff work closely with parents, which results in children thriving to achieve a reward.

Staff have built up good relationships with parents and create a welcoming atmosphere. Positive feedback from parents indicates good care is provided and parents state that a wealth of activities and approachable staff contribute to the good club. A notice board and a newly introduced brochure displays information about day to day events and policies within the club. A termly newsletter keeps parents informed of any recent changes. They receive verbal feedback on a daily basis about their child's activities and a written complaints procedure is in place. This effective communication between parents and staff provides consistency for children in their care.

## Organisation

The organisation is good.

The manager and the operational manager are committed to improving the quality of care they provide for the children. They are keen to attend training and all meet regularly and work well as a team. They are all aware of the children's individual needs and any recent developments. Effective recruitment and vetting procedures ensure children are well protected and cared for by qualified, enthusiastic staff. Staff organise areas of play before the children enter the club as soon as the hall becomes free for their sole use. There is a comprehensive operational plan in place, demonstrating that staff regard the well-being of all children.

Comprehensive policies are in place, which contributes to the safety and well-being of children being cared for. Children's records contain all relevant details and most documentation has been changed to the new logo. Policies are shared with parents to keep them well informed about the service and their child's activities. 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 the last inspection 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 by 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 children with more opportunities to increase their diversity awareness.

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)