

Kids United

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY365747
Inspection date	21 May 2008
Inspector	Ann, Theresa Flynn
Setting Address	Woodfield Community Primary School, Wigan Lane, WIGAN, Lancashire, WN1 2NT
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Registered person	Lynne Mary Sudworth
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 outstanding. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Kids United Out of School Club is privately owned and opened in 2008. It operates from a designated classroom and the school hall within a primary school which is situated in the Standish area of Wigan. It serves the children of the school with before and after school care. Holiday care is available at another facility operated by Kids United. A maximum of 24 children may attend the setting at any one time, currently there are 50 children on roll. All children share access to the outside play areas of the school. The club is open each weekday from 07.30 to 09.00 and again from 15.30 to 18.00 during term time.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities, which contributes to their good health. They benefit from free access to daily outdoor play in an extremely well resourced outdoor area. Children gain new skills and develop their confidence because the staff have an excellent understanding of appropriate activities and the level of support individual children require. Children enthuse as they try to balance on the newly provided pogo sticks, as they play a game of tag with staff

and as they climb on the various outdoor equipment, thus providing a great deal of enjoyment as well as helping children to be healthy.

Children are healthy due to the staff teaching the importance of hand washing routines. The routine is understood and managed by all of the children, thus enhancing children's independence skills. The staff remain alert to reinforce good practice as necessary, for example, ensuring children have washed their hands thoroughly prior to eating snacks to provide children with an understanding of good hygiene practice.

A detailed 'being healthy' plan is maintained, ensuring all staff, children and parents are aware of how children's good health is to be maintained.

Children are very well nourished as they are provided with healthy, nutritional snacks, including a variety of fruits and vegetables. Drinks are freely available to children, which they access themselves. Children develop their social skills through eating together at the table, as they discuss the tortilla wraps they are making and the various fillings they choose, during which they receive individual support from the staff who enhance learning by discussing healthy foods during snack time. Snacks are very well presented, with various fruits and vegetables available on individual plates to which children help themselves throughout the session.

Children's understanding of healthy eating is promoted because the staff enter into discussion about healthy foods, using various topics to raise children's awareness about good foods and thereby promoting their understanding of how to maintain their good health.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children are very well cared for in a well maintained and welcoming environment. Toys and equipment are organised within the classroom into various areas of learning, which means that children can move around safely to enjoy the very good and varied range of toys. These include a very good selection of dressing up clothes, craft, books, threading, computer games and a very well resourced outdoor play area. The resources provide ongoing interest, stimulation and enjoyable worthwhile experiences for children, providing many excellent choices for their play.

The staff conscientiously preserve children's wellbeing by continuously monitoring safety issues in and around the setting, by supervising children closely and by maintaining a detailed 'staying safe' plan. Children's safety is very well maintained because measures are in place to minimise hazards, for example, an enclosed outdoor area and staff accompany children when required to the toilets. Both the staff and children also undertake regular recorded risk assessments of the premises, ensuring children develop their knowledge of safety through involvement in risk assessments, thus helping them to remain safe and secure.

Children are kept safe when away from the setting as they practise walking in groups prior to any outings. Staff help to develop children's knowledge on how to keep safe when away from the premises by inviting into the setting speakers such as the road safety team and the lollipop man, thus developing children's knowledge prior to outings. The risk assessments ensure high levels of safety are maintained, both inside and away from the setting.

Children's welfare and safety are very well promoted by comprehensive policies and documents that include highly effective child protection procedures and risk assessments. The child protection policy shows a strong regard for children's welfare and meets the guidelines of the

Local Safeguarding Children Board. All staff are fully included in devising and implementing policies and are therefore fully aware of the setting's procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children very much enjoy their time at the setting; they flourish as they have many stimulating experiences that promote all aspects of their learning and development. They receive attention and genuine affection from the staff and are confident and settled as they engage in activities of their choosing. Children participate in a huge range of activities both at and away from the setting. For example, children are involved in various stimulating activities, such as outdoor games, including team games involving the staff. They delight as they proudly display their dressing up attire, explaining who they are. They concentrate well as they thread the tiny beads onto thread to create their own bracelets. Children interact well as they patiently wait their turn for the computer games. Away from the setting children visit places such as the local newsagents to purchase magazines of their choosing, thus providing wide ranging and excellent experiences for the children, which helps to develop children's knowledge and understanding of the world in which they live.

Children participate enthusiastically in practical activities and are eager and excited to become involved, such as playing outdoor tag with the staff and helping to set up for snack time. They concentrate very well as they confidently discuss their roles and responsibilities within the setting, for example, the roles of captain, drinks monitors and a 'perfect' rather than prefect system involving responsibilities such as keeping the computer games tidy, for which they receive praise and recognition of their efforts. This ensures children's confidence and self-esteem are skilfully nurtured.

The skilful planning by staff linking activities to the five outcomes for children ensures all aspects of children's development are nurtured and encouraged, and helps to provide increased challenges to ensure children make progress whilst enjoying and achieving. Children are involved in the planning through weekly children's meetings to ensure their interests are included within the activity plans, providing children with a voice and thus helping them to feel valued.

Throughout, the children remain interested, challenged and extremely involved in their own play choices. Excellent resources are varied, interesting and provide appropriate challenge to children to help them to develop new interests and extend their knowledge whilst having fun. The children speak of how they enjoy their time at the setting and playing with the staff; and when asked what they liked best they replied 'eating, as well as all the other things we do'. Parents speak of children being reluctant to go home, thereby confirming the excellent service provided for the children attending Kids United at Woodfield School.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

Children all have equal access to toys and activities and they receive equal attention from the staff, their views are taken account of during many aspects of the club, thus valuing the children who attend. They begin to learn about differences within society as they have access to a good range of resources reflecting positive images. Children learn through discussions and very good activities. For example, snack time involves children making their own tortilla wraps as they discuss Mexico. Children's awareness of diversity is further developed through practical

experiences as they are involved in creating displays of countries from around the world, thereby heightening children's awareness of diversity and the needs of others.

All children are cared for according to their individual needs, which are agreed with parents. They learn to share and take turns and thus play together in a harmonious group. Children learn about acceptable behaviour through explanation, praise, encouragement and through the use of awards. Friday night is awards night, during which children are chosen as 'cool kid', 'buddy' and 'helper' of the week and, as a result, children's behaviour is exemplary. Children delight as they explain how they are 'club captain' and how they use red and yellow cards to help staff to 'referee' any disagreements which may occur, thus developing children's confidence and self esteem very well. Adults and children form good, close relationships which results in children being calm, confident and very well settled.

The setting has excellent strategies for building very good relationships with parents and carers, which contributes significantly to children's wellbeing. Staff ensure records of activities, children's achievements and procedures are comprehensive and clear. They religiously share information, to ensure consistency and help parents and carers feel actively involved in their children's development. The use of an 'ideas wall' encourages both children and their parents to share ideas about ways to develop the club.

Parents receive very detailed information packs which include excellent policies and procedures. They are kept very well informed through the use of a parents noticeboard, newsletters, an information rack and the school website, including information about snacks, outings, activity planning and child tax credits.

Discussions with parents confirm their positive feelings about the approachability of the staff team, how their children do not want to go home and the high quality service provided by the setting.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

The children flourish in a setting where there is exceptional organisation of resources, outstanding planning and clear and comprehensive policies, which help to keep children safe, provide consistency and help children enjoy and achieve. The staff organise documentation very effectively, and meticulously keep all the detail required by regulation. Staff work extremely well to provide outstanding, high quality care for children.

There is an extremely well devised staff recruitment procedure involving the setting of interview questions, which are agreed by all the staff. Children are also involved in the recruitment of staff as they are asked what they require from any new staff members, thus ensuring their views are taken account of when appointing new staff members. The staff improve and develop their working practice through identifying training needs during staff appraisals, which enhances their practice, and all staff have a training action plan in place, identifying any future training requirements. To date the staff have completed various training courses and regular staff meetings ensures all staff are fully included within decision making and planning.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

This is the first inspection since registration.

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 outstanding. 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

No recommendations for improvement are made because the quality and standards of care are outstanding.

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