



Westlea After School, Breakfast & Holiday Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	511584
Inspection date	12 August 2005
Inspector	Susan, Esther Harvey
Setting Address	Sunshine Room & Mobile Classroom, Weastlea School, Langstone Way, Westlea, Swindon, Wilts, SN5 7BT
Telephone number	0777 3027583
E-mail	
Registered person	Westlea Pre-School
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?

Westlea After School Club, Breakfast Club and Holiday Playscheme opened in 1991. It operates from 2 mobiles which are on the site of Westlea Primary School, Westlea, Swindon. A maximum of 30 children may attend the club or playscheme at anyone time. The playscheme is open each weekday during school holidays from 07.45 to 18.00 and the club from 07.45 to 08.45 and 15.00 to 18.00 during school term time. All children share a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 29 children from 4 to 8 years on roll. Children come from the local catchment area during term time, and from a wider area during the playscheme. The

club and the playscheme currently supports a number of children with special needs.

The after-school club and holiday playscheme employs two full-time staff, and two part-time staff, three have a qualification in playwork. The setting receives support from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health within the setting is supported by staff members who have a secure knowledge of the club's hygiene procedures. Children are encouraged to wash hands regularly and are given support where necessary. Children are aware of the effects of the sun on their skin when playing out of doors. They spontaneously applied sun cream before going out to play. Staff members are qualified in first aid and specialist training including the management of children suffering from asthma.

Children enjoy physical exercise and are given the opportunity to develop their balancing skills using roller blades and scooters. Children improve hand and eye coordination as they share a game of badminton with a staff member. Children learn new skills as they enthusiastically take part in National Play Day activities with other clubs.

Children benefit from regular access to drinks and are aware of the need to drink plenty in warm weather. Children gain awareness in healthy eating and exercise as they take part in a Sport and Health project. Children learn about healthy eating in a practical way. They took part in creating a design using a waterproof pen on a white table cloth. They had included fruit, vegetables, and bottles of water, as well as various sports equipment which keep them healthy. The cloth is used by the children to cover the table at snack time.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are safe as they are closely monitored, and as a result they are able to move around freely in a spacious outdoor setting and mobile classroom, where all risks have been identified and minimised. For example children wear florescent tabards and coloured caps to identify them as club members while using the outside play area or on outings. Staff members are able to communicate with each other whilst outside through the use of mobile phone equipment. There is a clear written policy to follow if a child is missing on collection from the classroom during term time. But the written procedural information for a lost child is not available to parents.

Children learn to protect themselves, for example through the use of appropriate equipment when using roller blades and scooters. They are kept safe through staff members' clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child.

Children benefit from using familiar surroundings and knowing well established experienced staff members. Children independently access a good selection of resources which are checked for safe use as part of the risk assessment. There is a good range of resources, safely stored and accessible to all children. The resources reflect the art and craft focus of the club with free choice of board games and outdoor games which are enjoyed by the children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a child-centred environment. They have sole use of the mobile during the holidays to display their art work. Children are enthusiastic, interested and well occupied. They were keen to participate in the medieval theme of the week. This included making shields and personalising their own design in brightly coloured paints, and creating individual castles out of card board boxes.

Children are confident and given the opportunity to access the resources to support their craft work. They are provided with the opportunity to develop their imagination. For example, an undersea poster was displayed on the wall giving a 3D effect. Children explained enthusiastically how it was made and which tropical fish they designed and painted.

Children are well supported by staff members who are skilled at encouraging children to use their imagination and voice their ideas, all of which are valued and praised. Children are actively engaged in working in groups or independently as they wish, for example, building a space station out of Lego and negotiating the shape and design together.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are given the opportunity to be involved in many aspects of the club. For example, they participate in choices for activities and can express their views by writing on an "ideas" board. This includes choices for snacks or activities. Staff members respond positively to these requests. Children enjoy reading books, however resources reflecting positive images of disability and culture are limited.

Children's behaviour management relating to children under eight is generally under control with clear boundaries and rules for them to follow. However further strategies for improving older children's behaviour management would increase their social skills and awareness of others.

Children benefit from the close relationship between staff and parents, where relevant information is shared. Children with special needs who attend the club in term-times especially benefit from this relationship, where the link between school and parents enhances the all-round partnership. Children's individual needs are addressed while being valued for their contribution. This is supported by experienced

staff in the care of children with special needs. Children work together as a team during some activities and generally behave well, encouraged by the staff's expectation and use of positive praise.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children feel at home and at ease within the environment. This means they are confident to initiate their own activities. Policies and procedures are used to promote the welfare, care and learning of the children, however some information is not made accessible to parents. Children are kept safe through the diligent daily recording by staff of children's attendance and departure, as well as a record of the adults caring for the children. The committee is made up of parents who ensure the club operates effectively for the benefit of the children who attend.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children attending.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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):

- ensure parents are made aware of the policy for lost children
- increase resources that reflect positive images of culture and disability
- continue to consistently apply appropriate behaviour management strategies to ensure that individual children's behaviour does not adversely affect younger children

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk