

# Can Play - Bluecoat

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY349529
<b>Inspection date</b>	22 July 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Judith Harris
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<b>Registered person</b>	Community Arts Network CIC
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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?

CAN Play - Bluecoats is an after school club based in the Pilton Bluecoats Junior School, Barnstaple. It is run by Community Art Network, a Bideford based organisation which runs a number of after school and holiday clubs in North Devon. The club opened in 2007 and provides after school care for children from the junior school, the adjacent infants school. The club is open from 15:20 to 18:00 on Mondays to Fridays, during school term times only. Children use the school hall, the semi-enclosed courtyard adjacent to the hall, the playground and playing field. There are currently 10 children on roll aged from four to eight years. Three members of staff work with the children, all of whom hold a relevant qualification.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is well supported by good hygiene practice and appropriate health and hygiene guidelines are followed by the Out of School Club (OSC) staff. Children are learning good hygiene practice through the use of appropriate routines for personal hygiene. Children wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Staff use good hygiene routines for ensuring

the environment is clean and hygienic. Children have good opportunities for physical play, both in the hall and in the school playground. Children have opportunities to use a range of outdoor play equipment, including the fixed play equipment. The opportunities are clearly supporting children to practise physical skills and exercise.

The pre-school provide snacks and drinks and drinking water is available at all times throughout the session. The range of snacks offered are not extensively well balanced.

A member of staff with a current first aid certificate is available on site at all times. This means they can give appropriate care if there is an accident.

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

The provision is good.

Children have a good amount of safe suitable space that is used creatively to ensure they are able to access a wide range of activities. There is an effective system for signing children in and out of the club and any visitors must show identification and sign in as visitors. An effective system of annual risk assessments are in place, however, those available on the day of inspection are not currently up to date. Staff carry out a series of checks on a daily basis to ensure the areas used by children are suitable. The fire safety regulations are met and fire drills are effectively carried out to ensure children can follow the procedures. The OSC have a set of rules for children that help to ensure children are learning about keeping themselves safe. Children are well supervised and staff accompany them for outdoor play. Children have a wide range of play equipment and resources that they have direct and safe access to. Children can choose what they want to play with and which area they will use.

Children are protected from harm because staff understand the comprehensive policies and procedures and their role in child protection. They are able and confident to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary.

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

The provision is good.

Children are happy, confident and well settled in the OSC. They have very good levels of independence that are appropriate to their age and stage of development and allow them to make free choices about activities. Children are provided with a good range of well organised activities. At play the children are creative and animated, they are excited by the activities and use good imaginative and creative skills. Children's individual needs are clearly met by the range of activities and the consistent high levels of positive interaction and support from adults. The activities are all child led, with children requesting activities and being provided with the resources they require. Children play in the outdoor area or inside where they are taking part in a creative activity. They mix paints to make different colours and the staff talk to the children using a wider range of open questions that successfully support children. Staff are effective in supporting children who are less confident and challenge the more able children by open-ended questioning, encouraging them to think.

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

The provision is good.

Children are well behaved and benefit from lots of praise and encouragement and from some basic ground rules that they take part in developing. Staff make expectations of behaviour clear and give reasons for requests, ensuring children understand why certain behaviour is not acceptable. Children are actively encouraged to share and take turns with equipment. Good information is taken from parents to ensure that children's needs are effectively met. Equal opportunities are actively supported and at activities boys and girls both play ball games and take part in physical activities. At the indoor activities all children take part in the creative play. The OSC is positive about supporting families from different cultures and provide resources that reflect positive images of different people. Children's records have a section for recording information for learning difficulties and disabilities. The OSC is able to provide appropriate levels of care and support for all children to ensure inclusion.

The OSC build good partnerships with parents; a good amount of information is taken and the staff work closely with parents and the school. Policies and procedures are available for parents to view at all times and records are shared effectively. There are good systems for exchanging information to ensure children's needs continue to be met.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are clearly well supported and have good levels of supervision that are suitable for their ages and abilities. The play space is well organised and children are able to move around safely and they move confidently with good access to play equipment and resources.

Children's records are in place and up to date. There are medication and accident records and individual records for all children; all records are kept in a confidential manner. Policies and procedures are available for parents to read and all records are shared with parents. Staff records are kept and adult:child ratios are suitable.

Children are registered at the club by the staff and there is a system for parents to sign them out which is effectively used.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides care.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable at this inspection.

## **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 records 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):

- review the provision of snacks and drinks offered to ensure they are balanced and healthy
- ensure up to date risk assessments are carried out and available on site for inspection

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)