

# Sunny Days Play Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique Reference Number** EY363289  
**Inspection date** 09 April 2008  
**Inspector** Carol Johnstone

**Setting Address** St. Marys C of E VC First School, West Hill, Charminster, DORCHESTER,  
Dorset, DT2 9RD  
**Telephone number** 01305 787 678  
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**Registered person** Sunny Day Nurseries 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Sunny Days Play Club is part of the Sunny Days group, it opened in 2007 and operates from St Marys Church of England Voluntary Committee First School in Charminster, Dorset. A maximum of 26 children may attend at any one time. Children from the age of three to 11 years of age may attend. There are currently 18 children aged from three to under eight years on roll. The Play Club operates from 15:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday in term time only. Children have use of several rooms and have access to a range of secure outdoor play areas. The Play Club employ two members of staff, with additional staff deployed from other branches of Sunny Days as required. Both staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. Currently, children attending the Play Club in the school holidays are cared for at the Dorchester branch of Sunny Days.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the effective hygiene measures in place at the Play Club. There is a clear sickness policy given to all parents which outlines how long children who have had infectious

illnesses should be kept away. This protects the other children who attend. All staff hold current first aid certificates and their training is kept up-to-date. The first aid box is checked on a regular basis to make sure that appropriate help can be given in an emergency. Accident and medication records are clearly completed and staff are aware of the procedure for administering medication.

Children learn about their personal hygiene through regular hand washing after the toilet, after outdoor play and before snacks. Liquid soap and a hand drier are used which minimises the risk of cross infection.

Details of children's allergies are recorded on their registration forms which are kept on the premises and parents are consulted about what action is needed if an allergic reaction occurs. Staff who regularly work at the Play Club are familiar with which children have allergies and know what to do in an emergency. However, a more secure method of alerting staff who do not regularly work at the club is needed for occasions where regular staff are unexpectedly absent and unable to inform them.

Children are given healthy snacks each day and they enjoy helping staff to prepare them. A variety of fruit is given on a daily basis such as bananas, grapes and tangerines. In addition children have vegetable sticks, cheese and wholemeal bread. Drinks are given at snack time, however, children's access to a jug of water for independent use is not always available. Parents are given guidelines to encourage healthy eating for those children who bring their own snacks. Children's own understanding of healthy eating is also increased through staff having discussions with them during snack time about the different types of food groups and which ones are particularly good for them.

Children have a range of physical play each day which promotes their health and wellbeing. They play with footballs, hoops, hockey sticks and a parachute. When the weather is poor, there are team games in the hall and staff make obstacle courses for the children to use. Children are also able to dance and exercise to music tapes.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a safe environment. There are daily written risk assessments carried out before children arrive. Staff check all areas that are used by the children for hazards and if any are identified they are recorded and details passed on to the relevant school staff. All visitors sign in and out, in a recording book.

A fire drill is carried out every half term and the day of the week is alternated to ensure that all children will attend at some point. Children learn about their personal safety through discussion topics such as people who help us in the community and there has also been a discussion about 'stranger danger'. There are also club rules which remind children not to climb on equipment stored in the hall or run around.

The attendance register is taken with staff when children are moving to different rooms and regular head counts are carried out to make sure that no children are lost in transit.

Children would be effectively supported in the event of a child protection concern arising. Staff have a secure knowledge of the types of abuse, the signs to be aware of, how to record and who to contact for external assistance. All staff have regular training on this subject to keep

them updated of relevant changes in procedure. There is a clear child protection policy which is made available to all parents at the contract stage.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally settled and happy in the Play Club and they get on well with each other. They are able to partake in a range of activities such as art and crafts, reading, construction play, board games, cars and small world play. In addition on some days a structured activity such as cooking is offered.

Children are very involved when staff are planning the activities and evaluation sheets are being introduced for children to give their views on what activities they particularly enjoyed. During the school holidays, there are interesting topics each week and many art and craft activities such as making bookmarks, hats and T-shirt printing.

Children are able to choose from the range of resources available when they are in the main playroom. However, when they go in a group to other rooms such as the library, alternative activities for those children who may not want to sit and read are limited.

Interaction from the staff is friendly and warm, and there is a very relaxed and comfortable atmosphere in the Play Club. Children approach the staff readily to play with them or to help with an activity and it is clear that there are very positive relationships between staff and the children.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are encouraged to play with all of the toys available regardless of their gender. There are activities relating to the religious festivals of other cultures and recently the children made lanterns during Chinese New Year. However, the range of resources available that reflect positive images of diversity and disability is currently very limited.

Children behave well in the Play Club and play cooperatively with each other. They are encouraged to use good manners, to say please and thank you and to be polite to staff. Children are seen to remind each other of this when necessary. Staff are very clear of the behaviour management policy and offer children who behave inappropriately thinking time to consider their actions. Parents are consulted if there are ongoing behavioural issues.

Children with learning difficulties or disabilities are welcomed to the Play Club and there are specially trained staff who can work in conjunction with parents and external professionals to support their attendance and ensure their inclusion in the activities.

There are friendly relationships with parents and staff update them when they collect the children. There is a parent prospectus available, although this is not specific to the Play Club. Parents are able to look at the policies and procedures of the Sunny Days group which are kept on display each day. There is a complaints procedure available for parents which gives Ofsted's contact address and telephone number. However, the procedure does not currently make it clear that parents may contact Ofsted at any point in the complaints process if they have a concern. Photographs of all staff and their qualifications are on a notice board at the entrance

to the premises and all staff wear specially designed shirts with the Sunny Days logo to help parents and children identify them quickly.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are protected from the risk of having unsuitable staff working with them as full police, health and reference checks are taken up before employment. All staff working with the children have appropriate qualifications in childcare.

Children have plenty of space in which to spread out their activities and move around. In addition they are able to use different rooms in the school such as the computer room, library, nurture room and the main hall.

Documentation is comprehensive and completed accurately. All necessary aspects to support children's welfare are present such as contact information, parental permission for emergency medical treatment, the taking of photographs and the application of sun cream. Documentation is secured confidentially in a locked room.

The setting meets the needs 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 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 satisfactory. 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):

- implement a method to ensure that all staff will be immediately aware of children's allergies when working in the Play Club
- ensure that children have independent access to water at all times

- offer alternative activities during whole group times such as when visiting the library
- increase the range of resources that reflect positive images of diversity and disability.

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)