

Solent Junior School After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY367074
Inspection date	14 April 2008
Inspector	Lynn Reeves
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Registered person	Farlington Wrap-Around Service
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?

Solent Junior School Out of School Club was registered to operate at these premises in 2007. The club is managed by the Farlington Wrap-Around Service and operates from a classroom at Solent Junior School, which is situated in the Farlington area of Portsmouth. The after school club is open each weekday from 15.00 to 18.00, during term time only. A play scheme is offered during the school holidays, opening between 08.00 and 18.00.

The group is registered to provide care for 40 children under eight years, although it is their policy to accept children up to the age of 11 years. The number of children on roll varies. Children have use of a large club room and access to the school hall, the computer suite and an enclosed outdoor play area. There are five members of staff working directly with the children, all of whom hold childcare qualifications. The setting receives support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are kept free from infection because good hygiene procedures are implemented effectively. The staff wash down food preparation areas and table tops with antibacterial sprays and ensure all toys and play provisions are cleaned on a regular basis. Children learn about the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines and discussions. They wash their hands instinctively after toileting and before eating. Procedures are in place to ensure that staff hold suitable first aid qualifications. Children receive immediate treatment when accidents occur. Staff show sensitivity when children hurt themselves; they ensure that the accident is documented and the record shared with parents. However, the procedures for recording the times of accidents are inconsistent, which impacts on children's health and safety. Children are learning how to stay healthy. They talk about why it's important to drink fluids throughout the day and wear sun hats and creams in the sun to keep them safe.

Staff have easy access to details of children's allergies, medical and cultural needs, which helps to ensure that the needs of individual children are met. Children are provided with a range of healthy meals and snacks. They enjoy taking part in cooking activities, for example, they chat about how they like to make cakes and biscuits. Children that stay all day are requested to bring a packed lunch. Parents are reminded to choose suitable foods and pack ice blocks to ensure the lunches are kept cool.

Children have a healthy lifestyle. They have many opportunities to visit places of interest that are both stimulating and promote their physical development, for example, bowling, indoor soft play areas, play parks and the adventure playground. Children practise using their large muscle skills when playing football, riding the skateboards and scooters, and taking part in sporting activities in the indoor hall. Staff ensure the children are fully supported during their outdoor activities and supervision is good. Staff interact well with the children, helping them to enjoy what is on offer.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children play in rooms that are bright and colourful, where they have easy access to a large selection of resources. Some of the children's own creations and photographs are displayed on the notice boards, which helps to develop their sense of belonging. Children benefit greatly from a range of activities and resources that are suitable for their age and stage of development. The resources are rotated regularly and are stored at low level to allow the children to make their own choices. Staff check the equipment daily as it is set up and packed away; any broken or damaged items are discarded and replaced as soon as possible.

Children are kept safe because the premises are secure. Entry is controlled by a key pad and children are timed in and out by the parents. Procedures are in place to ensure that staff on duty sign in, although their times of attendance are not recorded. A visitor's book is in place, but visitors' contact details are not requested. These inconsistencies impact on children's safety.

Staff complete visual and very concise written risk assessments of all the areas and equipment the children use. They also ensure risk assessments are completed for outings away from the school site. Children learn about keeping themselves safe through discussion and routines.

They have a clear understanding of the group rules, for example, they explain that they must pick things up from the floor in case someone trips. Children are reminded of the safety rules when going to play outside and regularly practise fire drills.

Children's safety is promoted because all staff have a very clear understanding of child protection procedures. Through discussion, they demonstrated that they would be able to recognise the possible signs of abuse and that they would know how to report any concerns. Procedures are in place to record any existing injuries that children arrive with. Parents are kept informed of the club's responsibilities to safeguard children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children remain busy and involved in their play. They use their imagination well during role play, for example, they use sheets to make an air raid shelter and sails for their boats. Children suggest new ideas and activities. They are planning to perform "High School Musical" and recently took part in a pampering session, where the boys had tattoos and the girls put on make up. Staff get to know the children well and ensure that they have fun.

Children enjoy themselves at the setting because staff provide them with a wide range of resources. They enjoy opportunities to be creative with paints and collage materials. Staff help the children when requested and take an interest in their play. Children are confident and have good self-esteem. They explain their ideas and express their feelings with ease and talk openly about their personal experiences. They take turns when using the Play Station and show respect for each other and the things they play with by helping to tidy up.

Children build strong relationships with one another and the staff as they become involved in the range of activities and games available. They are constantly praised for their efforts, which helps them to feel valued and develop a real sense of belonging. Children can move around freely, with confidence and purpose.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are treated as individuals. They feel important and respected because they are listened to and valued. They are provided with resources that reflect diversity, such as ethnic figures, books and puzzles, which help to develop their knowledge of the wider world. Staff have a positive approach to caring for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and adapt activities, resources and the environment to ensure they are fully included.

Children behave well. They are polite and courteous, sharing the resources and building strong relationships with each other. Children learn exactly what is expected of them because they discuss the club rules and receive clear explanations from the staff. Staff are positive role models and continually recognise and praise the children's efforts; they explain what is right and wrong and take the time to ensure the children can see they have been treated fairly. Various reward systems are in place to promote good behaviour, for example, weekly raffles or stickers. Any unwanted behaviour is recorded and shared with parents to ensure a consistent approach.

Children's individual needs are discussed at handover time to ensure children's safety and welfare is promoted. Staff make themselves available to discuss any issues with the parents. They produce regular newsletters to keep parents informed of future events. Written policies

and procedures are made available to parents and good use is made of the notice boards to share information. An appropriate written complaints procedure is in place. Parents are happy with the information they receive regarding the organisation of the club.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children are very well cared for and are able to make choices and move freely around the setting. Procedures are in place for the recruitment and vetting of all staff. Annual appraisals ensure that staff training and support is monitored. The daily routines, activities, space and resources are organised well, which ensures children's needs are met.

Children enjoy themselves and feel part of the group as the sessions are child-led, for example, the children plan for future events and suggest ideas. Staff value the children's input. They continually use praise and encouragement and provide high levels of support to the children. A good range of written policies and procedures are in place and made available to parents. The required documentation is in place to support the children, although not all details are recorded. The paperwork is stored securely to maintain confidentiality. Overall, the club meets the needs of the range of 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 any action 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 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 the procedures for recording times of accidents are consistent
- ensure the system for obtaining relevant contact details of visitors is maintained and ensure that staff record their times of attendance

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