

Croft School Funclub

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY269164
Inspection date	15 July 2008
Inspector	Hilary Elizabeth Tierney
Setting Address	Churchill Way, Painswick, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL6 6RQ
Telephone number	01452 812479
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Registered person	Croft School Funclub
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Croft School Funclub opened in 2003. It operates from the Croft Primary School in Painswick, a rural town situated between Gloucester and Stroud. The club serves the local community and is managed by a voluntary committee.

The club provides out-of-school care for 30 children aged between four and 11 years old. There are currently 90 children on the roll. The club welcomes children with special needs. Sessions are from 15.15 until 17.00 from Monday to Friday, during school terms.

The club uses the school hall and two classrooms and also has the use of the school outdoor play areas. A team of three staff are employed and the play leader holds a level three early years qualification. The group receives support from the Early Years Childcare Services.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy healthy snacks as they arrive from school. They are offered variety of fruit and crackers. Children help themselves to drinks of squash as they wish. Fresh drinking water is also available from drinking fountains on the school field and they may request extra drinks from staff. Staff are aware of children's individual dietary needs and meet them accordingly.

Children's health is promoted satisfactorily. Prior parental permissions are obtained before the administration of medication, such as inhalers. Clear records of any medication administered to children or any accidents that occur are kept and shared with parents. The first aid kit is kept easily accessible and well stocked. Parental permissions to seek emergency medical advice or treatment is requested. Children understand they need to wash their hands before they eat their snack and do this routinely.

Children have regular access to fresh air and exercise. They go out together and enjoy their play on the school field. This area is large and children may run around freely, play ball games, such as cricket and football. Other resources are available, such as dressing up, board games and drawing. Children have great fun devising their own games and interacting with each other. They stated they enjoy being outside.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a welcoming, warm environment where they feel secure. Resources are in good condition and suitable for the children attending. Some activities are set out by staff when the children are on the school field. When inside activities are set out by staff and children may request more if they choose.

Children are safe as they play, staff are careful to monitor visitors and a book is used to record their presence. Although children could leave the premises unsupervised through fire exits and when playing on the fields, staff have completed thorough risk assessments and are vigilant in their supervision to ensure the safety of the children. Detailed policies regarding uncollected or missing children are in place. Children are aware of how to keep themselves safe through careful explanations from staff. A detailed fire evacuation procedure has been put in place. However, records of fire drill practises show that one has not been completed since the beginning of the year. Some consideration has been taken to where they will evacuate in the winter months, but this has not yet been practised with children. This may put children at risk.

Children are well protected. All staff have completed child protection training and have a satisfactory knowledge about child protection issues. Staff are aware of the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play happily at the club. They settle quickly into the routine and all play outside. They interact with each other very well organising their own games, such as football, cricket and role play. Children have opportunities to develop their creative skills both inside and outside, the

staff ensure that children have access to creative activities outside. Children enjoy drawing and making items.

Children develop their imagination well as they play outside. They dress up and take on roles, for example, a group play in the willow tunnels with dolls and organise their game amongst themselves. Children use the willow tunnels in the field as a den. Other groups of children enjoy playing a game of football they organise themselves. They understand the boundaries set for them in the field and stay within these as they play. A group of children play together with a member of staff playing board games such as, 'guess who' and 'giant connect four'. They take turns and share resources well, with the older children helping the younger ones.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well behaved and interact with each other happily as they play. They understand the rules of the setting and have developed positive relationships with staff and each other. Staff are good role models and quickly sort out any minor disagreements between children. Plenty of praise and encouragement is used effectively by staff and children respond with their good behaviour. Children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities are welcomed. Older children help younger children during activities and all ages play well together.

A positive relationship has been developed with the parents. They are given suitable information about their child's day when they collect their child at the end of the day. Written information is provided and shared with parents, but all the newly written policies and procedures have not been shared with parents. There is a detailed complaints procedure and log in place and the parents poster is clearly displayed.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

All legally required documentation is in place. The registers are kept and clearly record both staff and children's attendance. The registration certificate is clearly displayed which enables parents to see the conditions of registration. The policies and procedures are currently under review and are not yet easily accessible for parents. Fire drills have not been practised regularly with children and this may put them at risk, although there is a detailed evacuation procedure in place and records have been kept of previous fire drill practises. The staff work well together and provide a happy, relaxed environment for the children to play happily.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting were given an inadequate judgement and given seven actions to improve. These were to devise and implement a system for recording parents' consent and the administration of medication; carry out a thorough risk assessment of both the indoor and outdoor play environments to ensure that children are safe and secure; develop a procedure to be followed in the event of a child not being collected; ensure that there is an effective emergency evacuation procedure and that fire drills are carried out periodically keep a record of staff attendance, on a daily basis, showing hours of attendance; notify Ofsted of any changes in manager and make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint and develop a system to record complaints.

These have been completed adequately. There is a suitable system in place for the recording of any medication given to children and obtaining prior parental consent; daily risk assessments have been put in place and staff check all areas to ensure they are safe and secure for the children. Policies and procedures are still currently being reviewed and now include a procedure to follow in the event of a child not being collected, an emergency evacuation procedure, a complaints procedure and log. The group have not practised a fire drill with children since the beginning of the year, this may put children at risk. The staff and committee are fully aware of keeping Ofsted informed of any changes or significant events.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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 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):

- ensure fire evacuation procedures are practised regularly with children and consideration give to procedures for the winter months
- continue to review and implement policies and procedures and ensure they are easily accessible for parents.

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