

# Knebworth Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

---

**Unique reference number** 146768  
**Inspection date** 23/09/2008  
**Inspector** Janet Robinson

**Setting address** Knebworth School, Swangleys Lane, Knebworth,  
Hertfordshire, SG3 6AA  
**Telephone number** 01438 817014  
**Email** cathybyrongrange@hotmail.com  
**Type of setting** Childcare on non-domestic premises

## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

## Description of the setting

Knebworth Out of School Club has been registered since 2000. It is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. It operates from two classrooms and has the use of the hall in Knebworth Village School, Knebworth, Hertfordshire. The club provides breakfast and after school care for children attending the school. The club opens each weekday from 08:00 until 09:00 and from 15:15 until 18:00 during term time only. The club has use of the large playground and field for outside play.

There are currently 78 children aged four to 11 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions before and after school. The setting is able to support children with learning difficulties and children who speak English as an additional language. Access is suitable for children and adults with mobility difficulties and disabilities.

Six members of staff work with the children each day, three of whom, including the manager, hold an early years qualification to NVQ Level 3.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Knebworth Out of School Club provides effective provision for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). All children are nurtured and cared for in a supportive and inclusive atmosphere and very young children rapidly feel at ease under the watchful eyes of the staff. Children work and play cooperatively and the older children relate well to the younger members of the club and have a positive impact on their integration and well being. The manager of the setting is keen to develop the skills of her staff and is always seeking to improve the setting by checking on the provision and by listening to the views of parents and children. Her high aspirations and willingness to develop systems and practices mean there is a good capacity to improve

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to develop systems for sharing assessments and information with the school in order to further promote the continuity of learning and development for children in the early years age group.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- assess the risks to children in relation to the playground during outside playtime and take action to minimise these

11/11/2008

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

The manager is committed to ensuring children are happy and well cared for and she provides strong leadership and management for her team. All children benefit from effective team work and the warm and caring relationships amongst staff and children.

The youngest children are given extra support when they start the club and are closely monitored to ensure they are settling in well and not overwhelmed by the older children. There is close liaison with the reception teacher from the school, who sometimes brings children over to the club and shares information with the staff.

The manager works hard to build productive and positive relationships with parents and carers and seeks their views, which is much appreciated by them. Parents are very supportive of the setting and speak in glowing terms of the provision and the opportunities it offers their children who often do not want to go home. The manager seeks ways to improve the setting and the welfare of the children. She is currently increasing her knowledge to make sure that the children benefit from new initiatives. The children are provided with a good range of appropriate and interesting activities which are varied from day to day, and the quiet area and sofas allow children to rest and have time out if they feel tired.

Children enjoy playing outside with a variety of equipment and activities and are carefully supervised at all times. However, other children and parents crossing the playground during this outside playtime could present a potential hazard for the children. The school and setting have recognised this and are working together to improve safety in this area. Other procedures for safeguarding children are rigorous and all policies and procedures for risk assessments, administration of medicine and child protection are in place and up to date. Confidential documents are stored carefully in a locked cupboard.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

The children come into the after school club happily and most are keen to relate immediately to the friendly staff and other children. Even the youngest children say they enjoy being at the club and like the activities. Children become fully engrossed and spend periods of time at the child-sized snooker table arranging balls and practising strategies to make winning shots and then enjoy telling others all about it.

The caring family atmosphere in the setting encourages children to grow in confidence and self-esteem. There is good development of language and social skills as they work and play together. All staff interact productively with the children and help develop their learning well. Activities such as playing with the large model castle encourage children to develop their imagination and skills. The planning ensures activities and resources are changed on a daily basis so that children can take part in something different each day. When they are in the playground,

children are active and developing physical skills effectively. The setting has moved towards more healthy snacks, and parents comment very favourably on the provision of carrot sticks, fruit and yoghurts. All these positive features help children prepare for their future learning.

The setting has just introduced procedures for sharing information with the school about the observations they make of the children. All staff are being trained in this process and it is envisaged that sharing this assessment and other information will further benefit the development and well-being of the children.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### 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*

### Overall effectiveness

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Good

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Good
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Satisfactory

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	Good
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

## **Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted**

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

### **Detail of the complaint/s**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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.