

Dunkirk Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	254524
Inspection date	13/10/2008
Inspector	Janet Hibbett
Setting address	Dunkirk Primary School, Marlborough Street, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG7 2LE
Telephone number	0115 9153273
Email	
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

Dunkirk Fun Club was established in 2001. It is registered on the Early Years register and both the voluntary and compulsory part of the Childcare Register. The club operates from the Dunkirk Primary School in Nottingham and is provided by a voluntary management committee. The club is open before and after school during term time. The breakfast session is from 08:00 to 09:00 and after school is from 15:30 to 18:00. A lunchtime club for three- to four-year-olds attending the nursery is provided between 11:30 and 13:00. A holiday club operates from 08:30 to 17:30 during school holidays and school staff training days. The sessions are mainly attended by children from the Dunkirk Primary and Nursery School, although they are joined by a small number of children from several nearby schools. In school holidays, children attend from the wider community.

The facility operates from the main school building. Children use the school grounds for outside play. The premises are safe and secure, with all reasonable measures taken to prevent unauthorised access. The facility is registered to care for a maximum of 32 children at any one time. There are currently 70 children from three years to 11 years on roll. This includes children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language. Children attend at different times to meet their individual needs. There are four members of staff who work with the children. Of these, three hold Level 3 childcare qualifications and one holds a Level 2 qualification. All four members of staff are qualified in paediatric first aid. The club is a member of '4Children'.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Dunkirk Fun Club provides well for children who are aged five years and under. Children clearly enjoy attending and respond with enthusiasm to the wide variety of interesting activities on offer. Staff are skilled at establishing good relationships with the children, who feel happy and secure because they are well cared for. All children feel valued and included, with newcomers made to feel very welcome. As one parent commented, 'I have been delighted with how quickly and easily my children have settled into Fun Club.' The setting is well established, but the managers are not complacent. They are keenly aware of its strengths and of the areas where they wish to see further improvement. Managers have not yet implemented their plan to more sharply define the role of key worker in assessing children's progress as they learn through play. Children enjoy opportunities to explore Information and Communication Technology (ICT), but they do not make enough productive use of their time on the computers.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- implement the existing plan for key workers to assess progress through play
- improve the use of ICT to develop skills

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The Fun Club coordinator is well organised and demonstrates a very positive attitude, providing a good role model for staff and children. She ensures that the staff team are deployed effectively so that the children are always well supervised. Communication is good at every level, including with each child and with the parents and carers of those attending. The management committee takes a thorough approach to ensuring that children receive a high level of care, based on effective self evaluation. An example of this level of commitment is seen in the fact that all staff are qualified in paediatric first aid. Risk assessments are carried out regularly and the security of the site is a high priority. All the necessary recruitment and vetting procedures are carried out.

Managers consult fully with parents and children to develop suitable plans for continuing to improve provision. They are also establishing helpful links with childcare professionals. For example, arrangements have been put in place to further develop partnership working with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) teachers, so that the most appropriate learning opportunities can be offered.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The staff help children to learn well. Children respond happily to the broad range of activities provided by the Fun Club. They move freely between physical and creative play opportunities, pursuing their own interests under the guidance of attentive staff. Activities include an art table, where children are encouraged to give free rein to their imaginations, and a puzzle table. There are also more active indoor options, such as table football or table tennis in the hall. Children also have the space to sit and read or chat if they need a quiet time at the end of a busy school day. Computers are available and staff are keen to promote the development of ICT related skills. They are currently planning to help children make better use of their computer time. Weather permitting, many children choose to spend time outdoors in the safe school playground, where they enjoy playing with friendly staff who like to get fully involved!

The welfare needs of the children are met well. Children are safety conscious without being fearful. Potentially harmful activities, such as giving a 'piggy back' ride in the playground, are promptly noticed by staff and well dealt with. Behaviour is good and children are friendly towards each other. Younger children are very confident and feel secure in the presence of the older children. The club is successful in creating a happy 'family' atmosphere, in which all children understand their rights and responsibilities. They all contribute well to the smooth running of the club, helping to organise and tidy up after activities.

Staff take care to reinforce good hygiene habits before the children sit together for their healthy snacks. During snack time, children chat quietly about the day and have a rest from all the exciting activities of the club. Fresh drinking water is freely available. Children understand the importance of a healthy diet and physical exercise.

Children aged five and under thoroughly enjoy the Dunkirk Fun Club, playing and learning happily alongside the older children who they view as friends. The play activities help them to develop skills in cooperation and problem solving. The children's enthusiasm is seen in their full involvement in activities and is reflected in the following comment by a parent, 'We are very happy with the way the club is run. Our children always look forward to attending.'

The two recommendations from the previous inspection report concerned establishing effective procedures to inform Ofsted of any significant changes in the provision and raising children's awareness of good hygiene practices. Both of these recommendations have been met.

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

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

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	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?	Good

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Good
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?	Satisfactory

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

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.