

Mytham Road Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY287668
Inspection date	05/11/2008
Inspector	Mike Cooper

Setting address	Mytham CP School, Mytham Road, Little Lever, Bolton, Lancashire, BL3 1JG
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Telephone number	01204 333556
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Email	
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Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises
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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

Mytham Road Out of School Club was registered in 2004. The club operates from two classrooms and the hall of Mytham Primary School. The school is situated in the Little Lever area of Bolton. The Out of School Club serves the local area. The group opens five days a week for 51 weeks per year. Sessions are from 7.30 to 9.00 and 15.30 to 18.00 during term time and 7.30 to 18.00 in the school holidays. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. There are currently 47 children aged from four to under eight years on roll. The club employs five staff. All but one member of staff hold appropriate Early Years qualifications.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall effectiveness is good. Children enjoy being at the club both before and after school as well as during the school holidays. Their individual needs are recognised and valued by staff who give a high priority to inclusion and this ensures that children feel settled, safe and secure. The promotion of healthy and safe attitudes is outstanding and children are aware of how to stay safe and keep healthy by eating the right foods and taking exercise through outdoor play. There is a very positive relationship with parents and carers, and strong links with the local nursery and primary school. Staff are working hard to improve how they help the children to build on their experiences over time and how best to involve parents and carers but this is not developed sufficiently well at present. Self evaluation clearly identifies areas for improvement and capacity to improve further is good.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- Develop a system to monitor and record the progress of each child to help to optimise their learning and development.
- Ensure that parents/carers are aware of their child's activities and progress during the club hours so that learning and development might be continued at home.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Good quality leadership and management mean that staff are appropriately trained and have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Training is taken seriously. All staff are appraised regularly and encouraged to become involved in programmes that will enhance their understanding of child development. They effectively implement routines that give the children a range of experiences and activities. Good teamwork amongst staff ensures that children are fully engaged and safe in their various activities. The systems run smoothly on a day to day basis and children are aware of how these operate, giving them security and confidence.

One child was able to say how his views had been taken into account when the staff asked for his ideas on new toys and games. Records and documents are thorough and are stored securely, with staff able to access each individual's details so that appropriate care can be given. Risk assessments are completed and the security of the building is given a high priority so that a safe environment is created.

Inclusive practice is actively promoted so that all children's welfare needs are met and celebrations of different cultures and faiths are acknowledged. There are opportunities for visits to local places of interest and for visitors to come to the centre so that the curriculum and horizons of the children can be broadened.

Improvement since the last inspection has been good, with fresh water and fruit being always available and a clear policy for the security and safety of children at all times. Through careful self-evaluation, the leaders are aware that the systems to assess and track the development of children's skills are not yet strong enough. They are working to develop a clearer understanding of how this can be improved within the context of the club's activities so that they can provide children with individual support towards the next stage in their development. There is a sharing of resources and ideas with school and nursery staff, and regular communications are a benefit to all. Staff work in good partnership with parents and carers but do not give them enough information about their children's activities and progress at the club.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy in their out of school learning. Staff know them well and create a warm and friendly atmosphere throughout the setting which is appreciated by the children and their parents or carers. The children quickly and confidently settle into activities of their own choice from a wide range of resources available. They play happily with each other and with staff, learning to take turns and to relate to others as they become engrossed in their chosen activity. They are positive in their outlook and confident learners within the setting because of the staff's warm and enthusiastic approach to the activities. The children work as individuals and in pairs or small groups on a range of activities which include construction tasks and artwork. Staff encourage the children to complete their tasks and they successfully achieve a balance between supervised activities and giving children the scope to take a leading role in their own play. Older children help their younger friends with the result that the helpers gain confidence as mentors whilst the younger ones benefit from the advice and guidance of their peers.

Books are always available and access to computers ensures that information and communication technology skills are mastered from an early age. Staff encourage children to build on their own ideas. For example, a visit from fire officers during the summer out-of-school club led to discussions on fire prevention and the design and construction of a large fire engine from cardboard and papier-mache. Children are encouraged to listen to advice about their own safety and they are aware of evacuation routines and generally how to keep themselves safe. A healthy lifestyle is promoted exceptionally well. Children are well behaved and make a strong

contribution to their community.

The staff have just started to keep a written record of children's efforts and progress so that they can identify the 'next steps' that individuals need to take. As yet, the planning of activities does not take sufficient account of this, which is why the provision to promote children's learning and development is satisfactory whereas that for their welfare is good.

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?	Satisfactory
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Outstanding
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Outstanding
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.