

Treetops Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	511155
Inspection date	06/11/2008
Inspector	Peter Isherwood
Setting address	c/o Holy Cross C of E Junior School, Childrens Way, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6LE
Telephone number	01743 358427
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

Treetops Kids Club is located in the Springfield area of Shrewsbury in Shropshire. The club is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The group uses a demountable building which is adjacent to, and within the grounds of, Holy Cross Junior School. There are links with the nursery with whom the club shares the building.

The group serve the local and wider area and is open Monday to Friday from 07.45 until 18.00 during holiday time and for before and after school sessions during term time. There are currently 175 children on roll, nine of whom are in the Early Years age range. Access to the building is via a small number of steps. Contingency plans are in place to provide a temporary ramp if a disabled child is enrolled. The children access a variety of sessions. They have access to the school grounds for outdoor play.

There are six members of staff who work with the children, four of whom hold suitable early years qualifications. The staff access regular training on early years issues and receive support from the local authority.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Treetops Kids Club provides children in the Early Years age range with a good range of activities and resources. The club is fully inclusive. Welfare systems are exemplary and children know how to stay healthy and safe. Activities are planned well but assessment is not always used to build on what has gone before. Evaluation of activities has been a feature of the setting for a number of years but it is not linked sufficiently to the impact on individual children. The centre manager and staff show good capacity to improve the setting.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- use observations and assessments to identify the next steps in individual children's learning
- use the system of self evaluation already in place to measure the impact of activities on children's learning and development

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The manager provides good leadership to the setting. There are very rigorous systems in place to ensure that adults who work or come in to contact with the children are suitably vetted. There has been good progress in addressing the issues raised in the previous report. The complaints information and aspects missing from the child protection policy are now in place. All necessary policy

documents are in place and meet the requirements of the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.

Relationships with parents and carers are good. There is good informal discussion when parents drop their children off for the before-school session. Accidents are recorded and details are noted. In line with good practice the setting ensures that the parent or carer signs to indicate they have been informed. There are good procedures in place to ensure any medication is given with parental permission and it is recorded. There are particularly strong and beneficial links with the nursery that shares the building.

Staff evaluate activities well to see if they are successful but they do not always consider the impact of the activities on individual children's learning. Staff are committed to moving the club forward and there is some informal self evaluation but this is not yet having a full impact on children's learning.

All children are fully included in the activities provided and staff ensure that there are resources to cover the whole age range.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children really enjoy their time at Treetops Kids Club. Those who arrive at the afternoon session from other settings soon settle down and carry on with age-appropriate activities. There is a very strong emphasis on play both out and indoors and children develop well physically because the club makes good use of the school grounds. Children have a very good understanding of healthy lifestyles. This is excellently reinforced by the high quality healthy snacks and drinks enjoyed by the children. Children are proud of the work they do, for example making very glittery fireworks in a craft session. Children's speaking and listening skills are developed very well when they are in groups led by adults. There is constant interaction and questioning both about what they are doing at Treetops and what they did earlier in the day.

Independence skills are developed very well when children choose their own activities. This prepares them well for later life and has a very positive impact on developing their future economic well-being. Children know how to be safe. They handle equipment in craft sessions with great care.

Planning is informal but staff involve children in suggesting activities and they encourage them to try something a little different and not to spend too long on one activity such as the computer. Activities are age appropriate both to those in the EYFS and older children who attend the club.

There is no formal assessment of what children can do and what they need to do next. There is an over-reliance on the expertise of individual members of staff, who do know the children very well. This system does not fully guarantee that activities will challenge children and help them to move on to the next stage of their learning.

The welfare of the children is excellent. There is a very good emphasis on safety

and children are very well known by staff. Entrance to the setting is controlled and children are very well supervised by adults. Children are very safe because they know the club rules extremely well. There are expectations of high standards of behaviour and children respond very well to these. Children treat each other and adults with great respect. They are given good opportunities to function in a mixed age community.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is 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?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	1

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

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