

Time To Play Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	256837
Inspection date	24/11/2008
Inspector	A Taylor
Setting address	Southfields Junior School, Southfields Avenue, Stanground, Peterborough, Cambs, PE2 8PU
Telephone number	07812 656 346
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

Time To Play Club has been registered since 1995 and is placed on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. It operates from several rooms within Southfields Infant and Junior Schools in Stanground, an area of Peterborough. Time to Play Club serves the local community. A maximum of 50 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 07:50 to 09:00 and from 15:00 to 18:00. All children share access to secure enclosed outdoor play areas. There are currently 55 children on roll. The club employs four members of staff of which two hold appropriate qualifications. Access for children with restricted mobility is good. The club receives very occasional advisory visits by a representative from the local authority.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children enjoy coming here because they are well cared for, everyone gets on well together and they like what is provided. Overall, managers are providing a satisfactory club where the level of care is good. Those from all ages, backgrounds and abilities are involved successfully in the play activities provided and no one is isolated. The systems for gauging how well the club is doing and then planning and working for improvement are at an early stage of development. Based upon the way provision has kept at a stable level over the years, it has a satisfactory capacity to improve.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- formalise self-evaluation procedures so that they lead to improvement
- share information about how well each child is progressing, in order to move them on in their learning
- give children more opportunities at tea time in order to aid their personal and social development.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Leadership from managers is providing a stable club. The care provided is good. All systems in place to check on the suitability of staff are in place and staff have a good degree of expertise and experience in keeping children safe and happy. Staff are well trained in child protection awareness. Issues from the previous inspection have been completely resolved. The club is less strong in taking an objective view of what it is offering and in planning to secure year-on-year improvements. The managers say that the club provides a caring environment where children enjoy themselves but they do not seek to go beyond that. However, they successfully consult with the children and tailor what it is offered to take into account their opinions. Day-to-day relationships with parents are cordial, friendly

and satisfactory overall. There are productive working relationships with the schools. One manager recognises there is the potential for much more collaboration, particularly in working together to plan learning.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Clear rules and expectations mean that children behave well in the club. There are good systems to help them do this, for example the star chart leading to prizes. There are good relationships between everyone and staff add to children's sense of well-being and companionship by talking to them, asking how their day has been and joining in their games. Children play happily and enjoy what they do. Staff successfully persuade children to join in a range activities. Occasionally, some boys spend too long on the computer games so younger ones feel left out. Similarly, younger children often need more support to help them gain enough confidence to play with older children in the hall. Opportunities for them to use their imaginations are created when they make their own 'caves' using cloths under tables. An adequate array of activities are provided which children clearly enjoy. The club has made a good start in assessing how children are developing and records to date are helpful. There is currently no clear plan how this information will be shared with others in order that children's learning is taken to the next level. Health-wise, they have a well-balanced tea and there is more food for them if they are hungry later on. However, these arrangements are led by adults which means that children miss opportunities to do things for themselves, such as butter their own scones, pour their own drinks and take on a variety of jobs. This hinders their personal and social development. Having the club operate from both infant and junior rooms on rotation means the younger ones quickly get to know parts of the juniors and this helps them when they move schools.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
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?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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.