

Sprowston Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY365461
Inspection date 27/11/2008
Inspector Lynne Blakelock

Setting address Cecil Gowing Infant School, Falcon Road West, Norwich,
Norfolk, NR7 8NZ

Telephone number 07792 900 783

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

Sprowston Out of School Club was first registered in 2003 and in 2007 it was registered to the current providers who are joint partners. The setting, which operates from Cecil Gowing Infant School in Norwich, is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. There is appropriate access for children and adults with disabilities because the setting is on one level. A maximum of 32 children may attend at any one time. The provision caters for children from six different schools, including some in the early years age group and some at secondary school. The majority come from primary school. Children up to the age of 12 also attend.

The breakfast club is open each weekday from 07.30 to 08.45 with the after school club opening from 15.00 to 18.00 during term time. During the school holidays the club is open from 08.30 to 18.00 each weekday. It is closed bank holidays, school training days and during the period between Christmas and the New Year. The club uses the main hall, group room and occasionally the nursery room. All children share access to the school playground and an area of the playing field. The club employs six members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate qualifications and one is working towards a qualification.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Sprowston Out of School Club provides an effective service. Children enjoy the after school club which provides a safe, secure and happy learning environment. The managers, who lead it well, demonstrate excellent organisation of its work and are continually seeking to improve the quality of provision. This points to its good capacity to extend its effectiveness. Children are safe, with welfare requirements fully in place. There is a wide range of activities, which are suitable for the wide range of interests and abilities of the children. The staff have constructive relationships with parents and make them feel very welcome, adding to the positive environment.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- provide written and regular records of the activities which children take part in, in order to ensure appropriate activities are available to help them develop and build on their skills and interests

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Leadership and management are good. The new owners, along with committed play leaders and support staff, plan activities carefully to offer an enjoyable play and learning environment to meet the diverse needs of the children. Provision,

care and support are strengthened by the training of staff. Every member of staff has appropriate qualifications, with one of the owners working towards a degree. Most other staff are working towards Level 3 qualifications. Inclusion is basic to the aims of the setting and is demonstrated in the equality of opportunities offered to children. Staff are deployed effectively and regular staff meetings allow necessary information to be shared and expectations to be made clear.

The welfare of children is fundamental to the work of the out of school club. Policies, many of which relate to safety and welfare, are detailed and relevant to the setting. They include regular fire drills, vetting of staff and risk assessments, all of which help to ensure children's welfare. New children have an induction programme which includes safety information and a member of staff who oversees their settling.

Excellent relationships with parents and carers result in a very positive environment. The owners are interested in the views of parents, which they determine through questionnaires and daily contact when parents collect their children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have positive experiences in developing and practising a wide range of learning and personal development skills. They make good progress in their personal development and in their skills. Staff oversee the playing, learning and social development of children well. Activities are laid out on their arrival and children make their choices. Activities vary each day. Children remain purposefully occupied through the session, and are content. Some are engrossed in their chosen activity, with staff keeping a watchful eye on their progress and well-being. Within the wide age range of children, activities can demonstrate good progress in imaginative play or, for example, in motor skills. Relationships between staff and children and between children are excellent, promoting a happy club. Themes are quite a regular feature, including crafts, although the aim of activities is not always clear. Some children have particular interests which staff are aware of, although records of pupils' work and activities do not detail, for example, actions or resources which will enable children to develop further a particular interest.

This is a safe environment. All children under the age of eight are collected from their school, as a walking bus. Registers are taken on entry. No child is allowed to leave school without a parent or named person collecting them. Admission registers give details of alternative collectors of each child. Medical records and details of accidents are kept and the first aid qualifications of all staff ensure injuries or incidents are dealt with correctly. Fire procedures are understood.

Good attention is given to promoting healthy lifestyles. The daily meal is nutritious and offers a healthy eating experience as well as a time for socialising. Children have a very good understanding of the need to eat healthily. Sport is a regular outside feature when nights are light because the club has access to the school's facilities and some equipment. Children have opportunities to support new children and work in teams. Both of these help them to develop important skills for when

they are older. Behaviour is very sensible and considerate, with pupils seeming to model the good example of staff.

The staff realise that recording of children's activities and progress are not fully in place and have this as the next step in the setting's development.

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?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	2

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?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
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

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 registration.

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.