

# Marmalade and Monkeys Club

Inspection report for early years provision

---

**Unique reference number**

EY360801

**Inspection date**

05/01/2009

**Inspector**

Shirley Ann Jackson

**Setting address**

The Lodge, Blakeney Primary School, Blakeney,  
Gloucestershire, GL15 4EB

**Telephone number**

01594 510270

**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

Marmalade and Monkeys was registered in 2007. The club operates from Blakeney Primary School. The club uses a detached lodge situated in the playground. The lodge offers a large playroom with cloakroom, kitchen and toilet facilities. Access to the lodge is via a wooden ramp. Children have an enclosed, outdoor play area adjacent to the building. Children are able to use the extended school grounds, including the playground, playing fields and adventure playground area. The club operates before school from 08.00 until 08.45 and after school from 15.15 until 17.30, during term times. The club also offers some planned activities during school holiday time. The club is registered on the Early Years Register and currently cares for one child in this age group. The club is also registered on the Childcare Register and currently cares for 34 children in this age group.

The club is managed by a voluntary committee. The committee employs six staff to work with the children. Two staff are working towards play work qualifications at level three. Of the remaining staff, two hold qualifications at level two or above.

There were no children in the early years age group present at the time of the inspection.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Staff at the club meet the needs of the children who attend. They promote many aspects of children's welfare with success, ensuring that they are safe and secure. Staff observe the children during play, but are not completing formal written records, preferring to use their knowledge of the children to offer activities. The group have an informal approach to evaluating their provision, using regular meetings and discussion to plan for the future.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop systems to observe and assess children during play to enable staff to plan future activities to aid their development
- build links with other settings offering the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure all adults take part in assessment and so that there is continuity and consistency of care
- provide resources and equipment to support children's technological and imaginative development
- consider involving children in the preparation of snacks offered

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

The club is generally well organised. All required policies and procedures are in place and are effectively shared with parents and carers. Children are safeguarded during their time at the club through staff knowledge and understanding of the indicators of abuse and neglect and the required procedures to follow. Risk assessments are in place and are reviewed regularly. Effective systems are in place to recruit staff and ensure their suitability to work with children. A formal process for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the provision is not yet in place. Actions raised at the last inspection have been fully addressed to improve the outcomes for the children attending.

Partnership with parents and carers is satisfactory. Parents can access the club's policies and procedures, which are stored in the lodge. Staff are available to talk informally to parents when they collect their children at the end of the session. Parents are invited to a weekly morning session to enjoy a croissant and a hot chocolate with their children and staff. Children in the early years age group attending the club also attend the school in whose grounds the club is situated. Links with the school have not yet been made to ensure that what is offered is consistent and helps them to meet the individual needs of the children.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Through discussion and the examination of photographs it is clear that children are offered a range of activities and experiences which, over time, help them to learn and develop. Children are offered a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities. Staff use their knowledge of children to offer activities which they know the children are interested in and will enjoy. They observe children during play, but do not complete formal written observations to enable them to plan for each individual child. A suitable range of resources are available for children to independently select. However, resources for some areas, particularly in technology and role play, are limited.

In the past children have enjoyed playing outdoors with skipping ropes, 'moon boots' and on the school's adventure playground. Adult-led activities, such as, fabric painting, making Christmas cards and competitions using the dance mat have all been offered. During holiday activities, children have enjoyed visits from a bird of prey specialist and a circus skills group. They have become involved in the community as they were taken on a visit to Lydney Fire Station. Following this, they were encouraged to write 'thank you' letters to staff there.

Children begin to learn about a healthy lifestyle. They are offered healthy snacks at the club, but there are limited opportunities for them to become involved in the preparation of these. Drinks are freely accessible throughout the session, ensuring the children stay hydrated. Children learn about keeping themselves safe as staff offer explanations when they ask them not to do something, such as, running indoors as they may fall.

## 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

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	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?	3

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	3
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?	3
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](http://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.