

Chelmsford YMCA Out Of School club @ Writtle

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY381435
Inspection date	08/12/2008
Inspector	Jacqueline Lawson
Setting address	Writtle Junior School, Margaretting Road, Writtle, Essex, CM1 3HG
Telephone number	01245354873
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

Chelmsford YMCA Out of School Club at Writtle is one of seven out of school clubs run by Chelmsford YMCA. It opened in 2008 and operates from a building on the site of Writtle Junior School in Writtle, Essex. A maximum of 20 children may attend the club at any one time and there are currently eight children on the roll. The club is open each term time weekday from 07:30 to 08.50 and from 15:15 to 18:00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. Children come from Writtle Infant and Junior Schools during term times. The out of school club can support children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language. The setting provides full access for those with disabilities. The out of school scheme employs two members of staff, one of whom holds appropriate early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the local authority and from 4Children. The club is registered on the Early Years Register and on the voluntary and compulsory Childcare Registers.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Chelmsford YMCA Out of School Club provides a satisfactory provision for children who attend the after school care. The staff provide a safe environment where children can play after school and talk about their day. This is still a relatively new provision with only eight children on the register and as such, the variety and provision of activities can be limited by the numbers of children present. Planning is satisfactory and includes learning about other cultures. Weekly plans support the long term topic, for example celebrating Diwali or Christmas. The staff have begun to improve the resources and equipment to develop both the Early Years support and the activities that can be offered to the older children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- improve the resources for all children to support the quality of provision more effectively
- move the parents' notice board so that it is more accessible in order to keep the parents informed
- organise the room to ensure that there is space for the children to relax and play.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are protected by the effective procedures and policies that are part of the YMCA system. Recruitment and vetting systems are done by staff at Head Office. There are policies and procedures to ensure the children's welfare for example, if a child has an allergy, all staff are made aware of this and there is a member of staff trained to deal with a problem if it arises. The staff are trained through an effective

YMCA rolling programme of training and the setting has a trained first aider at all times. The staff understand the need to develop the provision further and new resources are being introduced to support this. Staff are committed to inclusion and making sure that the children are safe and have equal access.

The parents are given a prospectus when their child joins the club with all the useful information that they may need. They are kept informed by means of a parent's notice board about current issues, topics and menus; however the allocated board is not near enough to the entrance of the room to be immediately accessed by parents. Staff are provided by Chelmsford YMCA and as such are not always the same however, the manager has developed a self-evaluation of the setting to consider and improve the quality of the care that the club offers.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

There is one early years child on roll who attends part-time, but the child was not at the setting on the day of the inspection. The setting provides a satisfactory environment for children after school as the room is safe and warm and outdoor play is encouraged in the summer months. However, the club is held in a classroom equipped with tables and chairs and this leaves little room for the children to play and interesting areas such as a relaxing book corner or a role play area have not been established. The children have access to a games cupboard with age-appropriate games for the older children and there are a number of toys, including multicultural dolls and a garage with cars for the early years children. A sand tray is an interesting new resource which has yet to be introduced as the manager is waiting for the sand to be delivered, along with paints and craft equipment. Planning is in place to provide satisfactory learning and development and includes planned creative activities as well as self-initiated ones, although again limited resources and numbers of children at present prevent this from being fully implemented.

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?	3

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?	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

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.