

Elizabeth's After School Club - Northcote Scout Hall

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY380558
Inspection date	06/05/2009
Inspector	Nigel Lindsay Smith
Setting address	Northcote Scout Hall, Great Brockridge, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, BS9 3TY
Telephone number	01179 623 382
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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 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

Elizabeth's After School Club is a registered limited company managed by a family group which includes the manager of the club. It opened in 2008 and operates from ground and first floor rooms in Northcote Scout Hall, Westbury on Trym, Bristol. Children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The club is open from 15.15 to 17.45 Monday to Friday, term time only.

This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 30 children may attend the club at any one time. There are currently 18 children in the early years age range on roll.

There are seven members of staff, five of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications to at least NVQ level 2.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is good. Children are happy and enjoy their time in the club. Children's welfare is effectively promoted by the staff in order for their safety and well-being to be supported. Links with the school and liaison with parents ensure that staff know the children sufficiently well, which enables their needs to be met within the inclusive setting. The setting is beginning to reflect on its practice in order to support and evaluate learning outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop the use of observations in planning for each individual child
- consider a central record for accidents so that any trends can be monitored

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Clear systems are in place to check the suitability of staff and as a result children are safeguarded well. Policies and procedures are effectively implemented so that they meet the welfare requirements. Thorough written risk assessments of the premises and of the arrangements for walking the children to the club are supported by daily checks.

Good leadership and management contribute to the children's learning through play, care and promotion of welfare. The manager is developing the use of self-evaluation so that the setting can maintain improvement. Arrangements are in place for appraisals to commence to support the development of the staff members.

Good relationships are established with parents, enabling information to be shared to begin meeting each child's individual needs. Clearly displayed notice boards, information about the club and regular emails involve them in children's learning and development. Information is clearly displayed to inform parents how to make a complaint if necessary. The provision establishes contact with other settings providing the Early Years Foundation Stage to share information in order to meet the children's needs. Children of different ages are included equally in the provision.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in the after school club. They enjoy solving problems while participating in activities, such as building a large construction from 'super fort' equipment. Children choose from planned and free-choice activities. A group of children concentrate on making books and purses from card, supported by members of staff. Others select cars and track from labelled boxes and play together on the floor. A suggestions box is available for children to comment on the provision.

Children benefit from exercise as they use the outside area for activities such as riding scooters and playing basketball, and part of the large indoor hall to play football. Staff ensure that safety equipment is always in place for physical activities, such as a soft football for indoor use. In good weather a wide range of the club's activities are taken outside. Staff are beginning to make observations on children in the Early Years Foundation Stage and to use these in planning for the needs of the individual children. The weekly activity plans are linked to the six learning areas to ensure that they are all taken into consideration.

Children are well cared for through the setting's good attention to risk management. For example, they learn about safety issues in their induction procedure when they start at the club and through regularly practising the fire drill. They enjoy healthy snacks of seasonal fruit and cheese and biscuits and have free access to drinks so that they do not become thirsty. Good hygiene is encouraged, for example through children regularly washing their hands. Any accidents are appropriately recorded and reported to parents although the records do not give an overall picture as they are not stored together.

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?	2
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?	2
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

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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