

(Schoolfriend Clubs) Hurst Primary School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY282654
Inspection date	21/01/2009
Inspector	Bernice Magson
Setting address	Dorchester Avenue, Bexley, Kent, DA5 3AJ
Telephone number	0208 303 2688
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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 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

The Schoolfriend Club is situated at Hurst Primary School and serves children from the school. It opened in 2004 and operates from four rooms and also has a secure outdoor play area. The club is registered to provide care for no more than 32 children at any one time, aged from four to under eight years, and accepts children up to the age of 11 years of age. Currently there are 99 children on roll, with 55 children aged from four to under eight years. The out of school club is open each weekday in term time from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.15 to 18.00. Breakfast is served each morning and a light snack in the evening. During the school holidays, a play scheme operates each weekday from 08.30 to 18.00. Children come from both the local and wider community to attend the holiday play scheme. The setting employs five staff. Of these, one has an NVQ 3 in playwork, one an NVQ 3 in childcare, and one a Community Sports Leadership Award and BTEC Award in Sport and Exercise Sciences. Others have relevant local training. The setting is on the Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register and Voluntary Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Schoolfriend Club at Hurst Primary School provides a satisfactory quality of out of school care. Children are happy to attend, because sessions are well-structured and with an appropriate range of sporting and craft activities to meet the needs of children of differing ages and interests. Staff ensure that all children are included in the activities. Parents are positive in their support, pleased that their children feel safe and secure and confident that staff know them well. Currently, the club has a satisfactory capacity to improve as there are few opportunities for staff to evaluate their actions in order to bring improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure the web-based individualised learning programmes of the company are available to children.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- develop staff's awareness and understanding of effective ways to manage children's behaviour, taking into account their age and stage of development (Behaviour management) (Also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)

28/02/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Leadership and management of the club are satisfactory. This is a well-established club which provides good flexibility in out of school care. Staff work together effectively on a daily basis because their roles and responsibilities are clearly understood. The well-structured system of administration ensures that the needs of all children are identified and met. Good communication links exist with the primary school ensuring that children enjoy a smooth transition from school to club. There is an effective partnership with parents and they understand fully how the club operates. Rigorous attention is given to maintaining the attendance registers, and risk assessments are carried out daily. Documentation for each child is fully collated so that pastoral care is effective. Daily contact exists between the club manager and the company so that any difficulties in the welfare of children are quickly identified and addressed. Safeguarding of children has a high focus and is a priority for all staff. The club manager is appreciative of the good advice and support which is readily available from the company to help her comply with company policies and procedures for the welfare of children. Procedures for self-evaluation are at early stages of development and the club manager has limited time to identify and address any difficulties which may occur. For example, the club is currently experiencing some difficulties in meeting all of the learning and development needs of children and a key feature of the club is not available. Currently children are not able to access their individualised learning programmes to assist with learning in literacy and numeracy. Technical support from the company on the use of computers has been insufficient to meet the needs of staff.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Younger children enjoy attending the club and mix happily with other members. Staff work hard to provide a caring and friendly ethos in which children relax and enjoy the range of activities. Relationships between children and with adults are excellent. Children pursue individual interests or join effectively in club activities. Staff encourage independence, promote inclusion and praise good achievement. For example, one child entertained friends by playing his violin and was praised for his good progress over time, while another child was helped to complete a homework task in a quiet area of the club. Club members are proud of their participation in national competitions for out of school clubs, particularly as some of their art and poetry contributions have been published in children's books. They describe the club as 'a friendly place with lots of fun activities to entertain you.' Snacktimes are a good social occasion in which healthy foods are offered. Activities outdoors and in the hall encourage children to be involved in physical exercise and members show a good level of initiative in choosing tasks. Good attention is given to ensuring that activities are open to all children so that they can succeed. For example, in choosing teams for a game of football, children were reminded that teams must include club members of differing ages in order to achieve fairness. Children are encouraged to recognise and value the cultural differences within the club. At present, the club is focusing some of its activities on a celebration of the Chinese New Year, and a colourful display encourages members' interest.

Club meetings are organised to agree rules and routines. Children understand these, and good behaviour is promoted. However, in this busy environment, there are some inconsistencies in the methods employed by staff to ensure that behaviour remains within acceptable limits. The club manager has recognised that, in order to help some children achieve good behaviour consistently, the less experienced staff would benefit from further training in effective behaviour strategies.

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?	2
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?	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?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
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?	2
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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report. 28/02/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report. 28/02/2009

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.