

Elangeni Middle School Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY374382
Inspection date	28/01/2009
Inspector	Keith Williams
Setting address	Elangeni County Middle School, Woodside Avenue, AMERSHAM, Buckinghamshire, HP6 6EG
Telephone number	01494 721436
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

Busy Living After School Team (BLAST) is an Out of School Club that is organised and managed by two established registered childminders. The setting has been registered since 2008 and operates from several rooms within the school that are used flexibly. All children share access to an outdoor play area. A maximum of 26 children between the ages of four and eight may attend the out of school club at any one time. It is open each term time weekday from 15.00 to 18.30, and from 08.00 to 18.30 during school holidays. The two owner/directors have a diploma in Childminding Practice qualification to Level 3 and, in addition, at least 50 per cent of staff employed are qualified in early years, the leader to Level 5.

Busy Living After School Team (BLAST) is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Busy Living After School Team is a good after school club. The setting is well led and managed and good links have been established with parents and with the host school. As a result, all children are fully included in all activities and make good progress in their welfare and development. Staff have made a good start since the club opened in September 2008 and there is good capacity to sustain improvements.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- formalise procedures for evaluating the effectiveness of the after school club
- widen the range of books available and extend opportunities for children to share stories.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Good leadership and management from the owner/directors and the after school club leader ensure that children learn and play in a supportive, safe and friendly environment. Close links with parents have been established and this enhances the staff's knowledge of the children in their care. Those parents spoken to are very pleased with the club, particularly their children's enjoyment and the wide range of activities offered. The leaders have sought parents' views through a comprehensive questionnaire and have responded promptly and fully to any individual concerns. There is scope to share the main findings of the survey with all parents. The leaders have begun to gather evidence to help them to check on the effectiveness of the club, although this self-evaluation, and the way it is recorded, is not yet on a formal footing. A strong feature is the high quality written guidance provided for staff, which sets out precisely a range of policies and procedures that

secure children's health and safety. Robust steps are taken to check on the suitability of adults to work with children and to assess the potential risks presented by activities. Staff work well together and are vigilant to children's differing needs. Relationships amongst children and with the adults are very positive. Staff promote children's learning and enjoyment well and ensure that the sessions are well organised and resourced.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) children enjoy their time at the club and make good progress. Staff provide a wide range of activities that are carefully planned and prepared and give regular access to all of the areas of learning. Activities are planned in outline on a monthly basis. The plans are shared with parents and help staff to provide a good mix of experiences. The main room is bright, attractive and well laid out to promote children's independence in choosing and using equipment. Good use is made of a larger hall for more energetic activities. Resources are good quality and plentiful. A good range of games, construction materials and toys are well-laid out and handled very carefully by the children. There are good opportunities for children to develop their artistic skills and to compete or collaborate with others. Although a few books are made available, there is scope to widen the range and provide more opportunities for children to share stories. A measure of children's enjoyment is the way they settle quickly to the activities, make sensible choices and concentrate for long periods. They behave very well. Older children are kind and helpful to the younger ones and this adds to their sense of security. Visiting experts contribute to children's development. During the inspection, for example, EYFS children joined older children for a Tae Kwando session, which was modified well to meet their needs and ensure they could join in safely. Activities such as this, and regular access to the outdoor area, promote children's physical development and their awareness of the importance of exercise. Staff provide and keep a close check on the children's welfare and levels of supervision are good. They consult with children to find out what they would like, drawing up a 'wish list' of items. Staff are beginning to build up helpful portfolios of their observations of children at play and this adding to their knowledge of children's needs.

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?	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?	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

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.