

BrownLow Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY260012
Inspection date 09/02/2009
Inspector Aileen L King

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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

Brownlow Childcare club opened in 2003 and is one of a number of day care provisions run by Kaleidoscope in Action in the East Midlands. It operates from a mobile classroom, hall, dining hall, and grounds within the grounds of Brownlow Primary School in Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire.

A maximum of 29 children from three to eight years of age may attend the club at any one time. There are currently 75 children aged from three to under 11 years on roll, of these 12 are in the early years age group. The club opens each weekday during term time from 08:00 to 08:40 and 15:10 to 17:30. It also opens each weekday for seven weeks during the school holidays from 08:30 to 17:30. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

The children who attend the club come from Brownlow Primary School. The club supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Of the four staff, two, including the manager, hold Level 3 qualifications and two are currently working towards Level 2 qualifications. The club has links with the school's Early Years Foundation Stage. There is a sloped access ramp to the club, via the school premises. The club is on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Brownlow Childcare club is a satisfactory setting, where children are looked after and enjoy the activities provided for them. There is a good partnership with parents and carers who feel reassured that their children are cared for. There is an inclusive ethos within the setting and all children are encouraged to be active participants in the range of activities provided. The staff work well together as a team and are developing the Early Years Foundation Stage provision. Staff have begun to assess the effectiveness of the provision and the capacity towards continuous improvement is satisfactory.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop staff awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage
- enhance the children's knowledge and understanding of the world

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

- ensure children's hours of attendance are noted, with times of arrival and departure (W5 Documentation)(also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

01/03/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Team work in the setting is good and the staff are committed to the children in their care. Although self-evaluation is at a developmental stage, staff are candid and have recognised their training needs to develop knowledge about the Early Years Foundation Stage and also to provide opportunities to enhance the children's knowledge and understanding of the world. There have been improvements since the previous inspection, when staff awareness of child protection, staff attendance records and numbers of children were raised as aspects to be addressed. Since then, staff have attended training on child protection and this has been disseminated to all staff members. Attendance records are kept and the staffing has been increased to support the number of children present.

The partnership with parents and carers is good. Parents say they feel confident that their children are well looked after and enjoy their time in the club. Parents' comments ranged from, 'My child is very happy here' and, 'He has settled in very well'. Procedures for ensuring the children are kept safe and free from harm are in place and followed. The children's welfare and well-being have a strong emphasis within the work of the club. Checks are made to ensure any risks or hazards are identified and action taken. There are regular fire drills, particularly when new children attend the setting to make them aware of the procedures. Records are kept on any incidents, concerns or specific needs and how these are dealt with. Records of attendance are maintained, but these do not specify the hours the children attend.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The children come in to the after school club happily and are keen to join in the various activities which are provided. For example, they enjoy role play, dressing up and making construction models. They access the computers which are available and play various games. Craft activities are provided and from the displays, it is evident that children have a developing sense of seasonal activities. They acknowledge celebrations, such as Chinese New Year and participate in creating a range of attractive display boards of their craft work. The resources available for the children enable them to develop their skills at a reasonable level using eye and hand control and co-ordination. For example, at the keyboards and handling scissors and art and craft equipment. They develop their vocabulary and imaginative ideas, solve simple problems when making models and refine their social skills. Their ideas about the environment, particularly within the wider community, have been identified as an aspect for development.

Staff present as positive role models for the children, demonstrating mutual respect as they supervise activities. The children respond well to this and, as a result, they behave well, are well mannered and show good levels of consideration for others, making a positive contribution to the club. The atmosphere in the club is calm, friendly and welcoming. The children select from the resources available, initiative their own play and develop their ideas. At snack time, the children are

reminded to wash their hands before eating, are encouraged to take more of the healthy fruit option provided, and to have a refreshing drink. Children use the premises sensibly and are mindful of their safety. Their behaviour is good and their attitudes are positive. They generally conduct themselves very well. Any children who find this more difficult are reminded to remain calm and to share fairly and take turns.

The staff know the children well and plan a range of activities to keep them engaged and occupied. However, the setting does not keep specific individual records of the children's achievements and successes, but through the links with the Early Years Foundation Stage on site children's progress is noted.

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?	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?	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:

Met

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 (CR6 Records to be kept)

01/03/2009

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.