

Kidzone

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY344530
Inspection date	13/02/2009
Inspector	Chris Merrick
Setting address	St. Elizabeths School, Matlock Road, BELPER, Derbyshire, DE56 2JD
Telephone number	07738 353094
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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

Kidzone out of school club opened in 2006 and operates from St. Elizabeth's School in Belper, Derbyshire. A maximum of 52 children, aged three to eight years, may attend the club at any one time. The club is open term time from Monday to Friday, 07.30 to 09.00 and 15.30 to 18.00 and from 07.30 to 18.00 during school holidays. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are 38 children on roll. Of these eight are under five years of age. Children come from the local area and good partnerships are in place with the schools that the children attend. The club supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. There is access, for those who are disabled, to the hall and computer room though not to the upstairs playroom. There are no children with English as an additional language on roll.

The club employs two members of staff. The club leader holds an NVQ Level 3 in play work and is working towards Level 4. The other members of staff are working towards play work qualifications and they have completed both the special needs and safeguarding training.

The club is currently on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Provision is good with some outstanding features. The setting successfully ensures that all children are fully included in the life of the setting and their needs are fully met. Proactive leadership ensures that staff have a good awareness of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and as a result children benefit from a stimulating, well-resourced environment. There is a high commitment to continuous improvement through regular evaluation of practice, supported by on-going training and staff development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- use the role play areas even more fully to develop early reading and writing skills
- develop further the strategies for recording children's learning.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Leadership and management is extremely effective. All possible steps are taken to safeguard children's health and safety. In addition to statutory regulations, daily risk and fire assessments are completed, vehicle checks are in place for drivers

collecting children from other schools, and staff are given very clear guidance on systems and procedures so that policy is consistently put into practice. As a result children enjoy their time at the setting and are safe and secure. Processes for self-evaluation are very strong and areas for development clearly identified and addressed. Children and parents contribute through regular discussions and questionnaires. The suggestions board where children can communicate their ideas for equipment, trips and activities is used well so that children have a strong sense of ownership and responsibility for decisions about areas for improvement. Relationships between staff, children, parents and schools are excellent. Information about children's learning and development is shared regularly with the school to ensure continuity and establish an effective partnership. This means that staff can react sensitively to children's daily life in school. Regular newsletters keep everyone fully informed about activities and events. Staff development is a very high priority. Systems are in place for appraisal and mentoring after initial induction training and the staff give a high profile to the Early Years Foundation Stage 'Principles and Practice'. They responded quickly and efficiently to the recommendation from the last inspection and current systems effectively support an ethos of continuous improvement.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children's welfare is a high priority at Kidzone. Movement from school to the club is carefully managed. This ensures that information is collected from teachers and parents and any changes to arrangements noted. Key worker arrangements are in place for the children under five and this contributes to the safe, secure atmosphere which these children enjoy. The children take pleasure from their healthy snack together and the family ethos is promoted well through the celebration of special events such as birthdays.

Kidzone is very well-resourced and children have access to a wide range of well maintained, stimulating play equipment to support their learning. There is space for quiet relaxation where children can read the books provided. The outdoor environment is well used, and the children talk enthusiastically about going on a walk in the dark using torches. Planning shows both regularly provided activities such as drawing, puzzles and play dough alongside daily focused activities. Each session begins with a free play time which allows children to settle well and have time to talk about their day. Their involvement in making choices when the club buys new equipment means that they take particularly good care of the resources. Behaviour is very good. Children share materials, respect each other and work very well together. Good arrangements with the school mean that physical play equipment can be used in the main hall and the children say that, along with the parachute, these are favourite activities. This helps their health by keeping them fit and active. Opportunities for creative activity are carefully planned so that children systematically develop their cutting and sticking skills. Displays show work relating to Chinese New Year and welcome notices at the door are in a range of languages. This helps children to understand about different cultures. Provision for imaginative play is good with a home corner, shop area and dressing up materials. However, there scope to use these activities even more to promote children's basic skills. For example, through the introduction of reading materials such as magazines and

equipment that encourages them to learn to write.

Staff make good use of photographs to illustrate children's learning and displays of these provide good opportunities for children to think about what they have been doing and reflect on learning. Recent developments in assessing and recording progress include the introduction of children's diaries which record accounts of significant events. These provide parents with useful information about their child's time in Kidzone and the children also enjoy sharing them. However, the information recorded is not yet detailed enough for them to support staff in systematically planning for the next steps in children's learning.

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?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
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?	1
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 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.