

All Aboard Children's Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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EY270611

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Inspector

Gill Ogden

Setting address

Moyenne, 10 Nethergate, Westwoodside, Doncaster, South
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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

All Aboard Children's Club was registered in 2004 and is situated in Westwoodside, near Doncaster. It is privately owned and operates from a large, converted double garage attached to the home of the proprietor. There are two, fully enclosed outdoor play areas for the children to use, one of which is covered. Most children who attend the club go to the local school. A collection and drop-off service is provided for them. During school term time the club is open for breakfast from 7.30am until 9am and then after school from 3.30pm until 6pm. In the school holidays it is open from 7.30am until 6pm. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The club is registered to care for a maximum of 24 children at any one time on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. Currently, there are 20 children on roll, of whom two are in the early years age range. Of the five staff who work with the children, three hold appropriate qualifications.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children experience a relaxed yet stimulating environment in which to spend their out-of school hours. Close attention is paid to each child's welfare needs. They all make good progress in their development and learning, in line with the requirements of the early learning goals in the Early Years Foundation Stage. This results from effective relationships with parents and the local school which the children attend. The owner is generally self-reflective in her practice and is gradually building up systems to fully ensure the continuous improvement of the provision.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure enough staff hold relevant qualifications so that the contingency arrangements are fully robust
- establish fully an ongoing self-evaluation system to better support continuous improvement of the provision.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The club has a robust framework in place to support the care of children because all the required records are maintained effectively and policies and procedures are in depth and reflect practice. The risk assessment is clearly recorded and any potential hazards are minimised well. Thorough child protection procedures are in place and all staff are fully aware of their safeguarding responsibilities. Any training staff attend is shared with others to extend their skills and knowledge, however, a minimum number of staff hold relevant qualifications, which does not support fully

effective contingency arrangements. Since the last inspection the owner has been very prompt in responding to actions and recommendations to fully ensure the safety of the children and to begin to establish systems to improve the quality of the provision overall. The premises are now very secure and all staff have undergone robust vetting. The system for self-evaluation is gradually being developed to encourage reflective practice by the whole staff team.

Strong links with parents and the local school contributes effectively to children's continuity of care and learning. The owner and staff have a history of close links with the nearby school, mainly resulting from them having worked there. This results in a trusting environment which helps children to have their changing needs met continually. Parents are very well-informed about the club through chats and a useful booklet which refers to all the policies and procedures. It has detailed information about the incubation periods form a range of illnesses, so that parents are quite clear when children cannot attend. They also sign up to a home-club contract which is reviewed regularly.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children enjoy a relaxed environment where there is plenty for them to do in their out-of school hours. The environment is calm and comfortable with clear areas for them to take part in a variety of activities. Younger children receive plenty of attention because the older ones can use a separate space to indulge in their preferred activities, which do not impact on the younger ones unless they choose to interact with them. For example, older children often enjoy helping the younger ones with some activities and they all enjoy playing outdoors together. Again there is plenty of outdoor space to ensure that the needs of the younger children are not compromised in any way. They can move freely between indoors and outdoors, enjoying activities, such as, tennis on the small hard court or running freely on the small field. They are encouraged to spend time outdoors before it gets too hot but there is also an awning attached to a fence so that they can play safely outdoors in the shade as well. When the weather is not so good there is a pleasant covered space which they can use at the opposite side of the building. Children know the safety rules of the club and let staff know what they are doing and where they are going, as well as taking part in regular fire drills which also help them learn to keep themselves safe. Standards of behaviour are high because children are involved in making the rules and there is a clearly promoted ethos that encourages respect for all and acceptance and realisation that everyone is different. Easily visible hand washing facilities ensures that every child can maintain their personal hygiene habits well.

Planning is informal, especially during school term time, so that each child is able to enjoy a balanced day. If children are tired after school there are sofas where they can rest, watch television, read or sit comfortably and use electronic games. There is always the opportunity for children to do their homework if they wish. Much of the time children are keen to play outdoors and take part in large physical activity after school because they have usually spent most of the school day indoors. Staff are alert to each child's achievements and compare them with the steps towards the early learning goals so that information is there to be shared

with parents and the school. For example, a three-year-old is seen to pile up bricks and say number names randomly which was noted to show that she was gaining the concept of counting. In the holidays key activities are planned, such as baking, which offer opportunities for the children to practise and extend their skills and understanding in all the areas of learning. Activities are set up outdoors according to children's wishes, such as, taking out role play equipment so that children can enjoy imaginative play in the fresh air. Overall the club supports children well in developing the habits and behaviour appropriate to good learners, their own needs, and those of others during the relatively short time they spend there.

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.	3

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

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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