



## **St John's C.E. First School**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY308093
<b>Inspection date</b>	05 December 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Janice Rizvi

<b>Setting Address</b>	St. Johns C of E First School, Whiteoaks Drive, Bishops Wood, Stafford, Staffordshire, ST19 9AH
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**Telephone number**

**E-mail**

<b>Registered person</b>	St Johns C. E. First School
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<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
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<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care
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## ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St John's Out of School Care opened in 2005 and is run by a committee. It operates from a mobile classroom within St John's First School in Bishop's Wood, South Staffordshire. A maximum of 25 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday during term time for children who attend the school from 07:30 to 08:50 and 15:15 to 18:00. The holiday play scheme is not currently operational. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 30 children aged from 4 to 13 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group supports children with special educational needs.

There are 4 staff who are employed to work with children. The manager and one other member of staff have early year's qualifications. The group works in partnership with the school.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health within the setting is supported appropriately by staff that have a satisfactory knowledge of the club's health and hygiene policies. Procedures are in place to ensure that hygiene and hand washing facilities are maintained. Children are independent in their self help skills. There are good outdoor facilities; during the winter months and darker nights, most activities are conducted indoors. Children move freely between rooms and activities throughout the session. They learn about the importance of activity as they join in with the schools weekly sessions of gymnastics, football and basketball.

Sufficient staff hold paediatric first aid certificates, however the first aid box is not kept fully stocked and emergency medical advice and treatment consent is not requested from parents. Therefore in the event of an emergency, staff are not able to take prompt action or be fully informed, which compromises children health and safety. Accident recording is maintained and signed by staff, parents are informed verbally.

Children benefit from healthy snacks. Drinks and fruit are freely available for children to access independently. They enjoy their snack, sitting together, along with staff in a friendly atmosphere. Individual dietary needs are discussed with parents and any allergies are carefully recorded and the information is given to staff to ensure children's needs are fully met.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Satisfactory steps are taken to ensure the premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities to promote their development. The premises are clean, well lit and ventilated. The out of School Club have recently moved into a mobile classroom within the school grounds. This is a completely self contained unit including kitchen and toilets. Some redecoration has taken place, with further equipment on order, such as display boards for children's work. However staff are unable to ensure that the premises are maintained to a suitable temperature especially following the weekend, as a result the rooms on Mondays are often cold. This compromises children's comfort and well-being.

There is a good extensive range of resources and equipment which support children's development and leisure activities. These are stored in open cupboards

and easily accessed by children. There is a range of low tables and chairs which are appropriate and safe for children. Children learn about safety within planned and unplanned play and learning activities. Safety issues are discussed and understood by the children. Children's awareness of safety issues are continuously developed through every day activities and rehearsals of fire drills. Children are aware of the rules within the club, for example, 'must not run, it may cause an injury', 'be careful when playing pool' and 'not to hurt others'. They learn to play safely, identify risks and have concern for others.

Although the club has a clear and comprehensive child protection policy that is shared with parents, not all staff has a sound knowledge of child protection procedures and are unsure of the policy relating to allegations made against staff. As a result, systems for protecting children from harm are insecure.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic and self-assured in the club's welcoming environment. They can relax or be active in accordance with their needs and interest. They talk confidently about how they enjoy the activities and coming to the club. There is a good range of well-maintained resources which are used to interest children and develop their learning. Some of their favourite games are playing pool, table Lego and imaginative play inside the tent with cushions. Children use their initiative and are encouraged to think for themselves and use their own ideas. Staff fosters the children's creativity by listening to their ideas and giving them support in implementing them, this assists children to make their own choices and meet their own needs. The club works in close liaison with the school and many children participate in out of school activities and sports. The school computer room is also made available for the out of school club.

Children enjoy art and craft activities in the quiet room. Children feel valued and a sense of pride as they succeed and achieve for example, producing their own Christmas trees and fairies. They make positive relationships and develop good social skills as they are encouraged to care for each other. Staff and children communicate sufficiently well, staff listen carefully to what children say and respond positively, promoting children's self worth and esteem.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy mutually respectful relationships with the staff and each other. They develop self-esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions and make choices and decisions. Children are able to work harmoniously with others, they show a sense of team work when playing pool and team games. They enjoy working together to design, create construction, and art and craft activities. Children are generally well-behaved. They are aware of the rules and understand why the rules are necessary, they think of each other's feelings, take turns and share equipment. They

are able to modify their behaviour for example, 'not to play roughly' Children are able to state the rules and know what is expected of them. They understand right from wrong and the effect of their actions on others; this encourages the children to behave in a responsible manner.

All children are included and supported to fully participate in the group. Although some festivals are jointly celebrated with the school; there are few resources to reflect positive images of culture gender and disability, this limits children's opportunity to learn about wider society, discuss and explore their thoughts and feelings.

Children's individual needs are met effectively because staff have a good working partnership with parents. Staff make parents welcome and good communication systems are in place.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's welfare is protected as the registered person has general checking procedures in place. However these recruitment procedures are not fully rigorous enough to ensure references are obtained in each instance, this compromises children's safety.

Children have their health and achievement sufficiently promoted. Staff continue to update their knowledge and improve their practice through opportunities to access relevant training. The provision meets the requirement that at least half the staff is qualified, including valid first aid certificates. Satisfactory adult:child ratios support children's care, learning and play. The space available is generally well organised and the additional use of the school hall accommodates a variety of physical games and sports activities, to support children's needs and interests.

A comprehensive list of policies and procedures is in place and made available to parents, generally these work well in practice to promote children's welfare. The provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

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.

## THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

## WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

### The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- establish robust recruitment procedures including full references being taken up
- request written parental consent for seeking emergency medical advice and treatment
- increase resources to reflect diversity
- ensure the first aid box is checked frequently and the contents replaced as necessary
- ensure children's playrooms are maintained at an adequate temperature
- ensure that all staff working with children develop a knowledge and understanding of the local child protection procedures

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)