



## **The Cottage Kids Club (Ravensdale Infant School)**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	206102
<b>Inspection date</b>	18 October 2005
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<b>Registered person</b>	The Cottage Day Nurseries Ltd.
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care

## 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Cottage Kids Club opened in September 2000. It is run by The Cottage Club Day Nurseries Ltd. It operates from a classroom, the hall and outdoor play space at Ravensdale Infant School, Mickleover, Derby. The out of school club is open each week day from 15:30 to 18:00 during term time only. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently 30 children from 4 to 11 years on roll. The setting supports children with special needs. Two staff work with the children. One has early years qualifications. A pool of staff are available from Cottage Kids Day Nursery to increase

the staffing to meet ratios.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to eat a healthy diet and are introduced to a range of foods which are nutritious. Staff plan a varied menu which includes sandwiches, pita bread and a good selection of fresh fruit and vegetables each day. Children have access to drinks throughout the session. They are learning about healthy eating and how exercise is good for them through regular discussion with staff and planned topics such as 'Being Healthy.' This promotes children's good health. Children's dietary needs are recorded and staff ensure that these are adhered to ensure that children with any allergies remain healthy.

Children learn the importance of appropriate hygiene procedures through daily routines and discussion. They know for example that they must wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Staff have good hygiene routines in place to prevent the spread of infection. Children's health is safeguarded through the settings policies, procedures and records, although the recording of medication and accidents is not always confidential.

Children enjoy a range of activities which contribute to their good health. They are involved in a good variety of physical activities both inside and outside. These include skipping, playing tennis and football outside and they participate in team games inside the hall during bad weather.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a secure and safe indoor and outdoor environment where priority is given to safety. Children are closely supervised by staff at all times which helps to keep them safe. Space is organised so children can move freely and safely indoors and outdoors. Staff carry out regular safety checks around the setting and risk assessments are undertaken on the premises. Although these are not implemented effectively as not all staff are aware of them.

Children are learning to keep themselves safe by discussing safety rules with staff. For example how to keep safe when they go on walks to the local park. They learn how to react in an emergency by regular emergency escape drills. Good security precautions contribute to children's safety, for example, staff monitor access to the provision closely and there is a good system for registering children's arrival and departure.

Children are protected from possible abuse because staff have a clear understanding of relevant child protection procedures and appropriate responses. There is always a minimum of one member of staff who is qualified in first aid, which ensures injuries to

children are appropriately managed.

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

The provision is good.

Children enter the group confidently and discuss their day in school with children and staff. They experience positive relationships with staff which increases their sense of trust and well being. Children are able to voice their opinions and are well supported by staff who listen and talk to them. They contribute to planning by requesting the toys and equipment they wish to play with the following week. Children's self reliance is fostered as they are able to access toys and equipment freely and independently.

Children experience a good range of activities and experiences which contribute to their development for example, they enjoy playing with imaginative play equipment and taking part in art and craft activities of their choice such as creating faces from paper plates and collage materials. Staff plan a range of activities which are stimulating and fun, as a result children show interest in the activities and a high level of concentration.

Children are learning to make positive relationships with each other and caring staff help children to settle into the group. Children's communication skills are enhanced through positive adult-child interactions. They are confident to seek the help and support of staff and happily engage them in conversation.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued and respected as individuals by staff. They get to know the children well and are able to meet their individual needs. Good use of praise and encouragement by staff helps build children's self-esteem and confidence. Children are praised for their achievements and their art and craft work is displayed. Children have some opportunities to identify their preferences and to choose their own activities. However they have limited opportunities to be involved in planning for future activities, resulting in children's ideas not being developed. Children benefit from the effective working relationship that staff have established with their parents. Verbal information about the welfare, activities and behaviour is exchanged on a daily basis.

Children are learning to play together cooperatively, sharing and taking turns with toys and equipment such as the play station and sports equipment. Their behaviour is good in response to the clear boundaries set by staff. Children and staff discuss the club rules which helps them respond positively and take responsibility for their behaviour. Children are involved in making choices about their play.

Children learn about different cultures and the world around them through activities and discussion with staff. Children with special needs are warmly welcomed in the setting and receive good levels of support from experienced staff.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from an organised routine and are comfortable and at ease in the setting. The children are settled and are confident to approach the staff for support. Appropriate adult and child ratios are maintained to support children's care and play. Staff spend time with the children to ensure that they are engaged in purposeful play. Recruitment and vetting procedures ensure children are well protected and cared for by practitioners with knowledge and understanding of child development.

Written policies and procedures are used to promote the care and welfare of the children, and these are shared with parents to keep them informed about their child and the provision. Staff establish positive working relationships with parents to enable appropriate care to be provided for the children. Children benefit from staff who attend training courses to update and improve their knowledge and understanding.

Overall, the needs of all the children who attend are met.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection recommendations were made regarding updating the operational plan to reflect changes to the National Standards made September 2003, to increase detail recorded in the accident/incident records and to make reference to 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused' in the statement of child protection arrangements.

To address these issues the setting have reviewed all policies and procedures in the operational plan to comply with the changes in the National Standards September 2003. The accident and incident form have been changed and now contain sufficient detail to record how the accident/incident happened, who was present, what treatment was administered and staff sign and witness document. Parents also sign to acknowledge entry.

The child protection statement has been reviewed and the procedure follows guidelines in 'What to do if your' worried a child is being abused. All staff are aware of the document and appropriate responses.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

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.

## **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 good. 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):

- further develop the accident and medication procedures to ensure confidentiality
- improve staffs understanding of risk assessments and their effective implementation in the setting
- further develop opportunities for children to be involved in planning for future activities

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