



Cared 4 Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	253168
Inspection date	19 October 2005
Inspector	Diana Pidgeon
Setting Address	William Lilley Infant School, Halls Road, Stapleford, Notts, NG9 7FS
Telephone number	0115 8492304
E-mail	info@cared4.co.uk
Registered person	Care 4 Ltd
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	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.

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?

Cared 4 Club was registered in 1999. It is a privately owned provision that offers out of school care and is based in the grounds of William Lilley Infant School in Stapleford. The club has use of a portacabin as its main base with additional areas in the school if needed. Children use the enclosed playground and school field for outside play. Children from a number of local schools attend this provision.

The club is registered to accept a maximum of 70 children at any one time. There are currently 102 children aged from 4 to 11 years on roll, 60 of whom are under 8 years. Children have different patterns of attendance, with some only attending during

school holidays. The club is open daily from 07:30 to 09:00 and 15:00 to 18:00 during school term times and from 07:30 to 18:00 in the school holidays. A total of 11 staff work with the children, 8 of whom hold relevant early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities that contribute to their good health. Opportunities for daily vigorous play outdoors helps children develop a positive attitude towards exercise and aids their physical development. Many children enjoy organised games, such as football, in the school playground. Others skip or play basketball with small groups of friends, which helps to develop their skills. Children are free to move between indoors and outdoors, which allows them to be active or to rest according to their own needs.

Children help themselves to drinks after playing outdoors, as these are readily accessible to them. They are encouraged by staff to recognise when they are thirsty and to understand the importance of taking in fluids. Children's overall nutritional requirements are met through planned meals or snacks. Children eat a light snack, such as crumpets and sliced apple, when they arrive at the club after school. Menus are displayed so that parents know what their children will be given each day. Positive steps are taken to help children understand about healthy foods through discussions and posters displayed in the club room. Consequently, children are beginning to understand that fruits are good for them.

Children understand the importance of maintaining good standards of personal hygiene, for example washing their hands after using the toilet. Their health is protected because staff follow appropriate hygiene procedures to prevent cross-infection. For example, they use tongs to serve apple to the children at tea time. When minor accidents occur children are sensitively comforted and any injuries treated appropriately. Staff log these and ensure they are shared with parents promptly, so ensuring children's on-going welfare.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm, safe and well-maintained environment. Regular risk assessments are undertaken, ensuring potential hazards are minimised and children's safety assured. Careful organisation of the space, furniture and equipment in the club room enables children to move freely and independently between different activities and play areas. They are always within the sight of staff. Consequently children are confident and feel safe and secure. Children benefit from having sufficient space to engage in both active and quiet play.

All toys and equipment are in good condition and appropriate for the full age range of the children attending. Children have ready access to a wide range of activities and

play materials that are set out for them each session. In addition they can make their own choices from further items stored on shelves, which promotes their independence. Children who select a game from the shelf return it after use, showing respect for the toys and equipment.

Children are developing a good understanding of keeping themselves safe. For example, they explain why they do not run indoors and give a detailed description of how they evacuate the building in the event of a fire. Topic work and discussions with staff helps raise children's overall awareness of safety. Access to the building is monitored and effective procedures are in place for the collection of children. Consequently, children are well protected. Staff have a sound awareness of their individual responsibilities towards child protection and are clear who to contact if they were concerned about a child. As a result, children's welfare is safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and confident in the club. They enjoy many different activities and spend their leisure time in ways that interest and engage them. Daily planning is in place and this provides children with a wide variety of activities, often linked to themes. Some children relish the opportunities to be creative and spend lots of time creating their own designs, for example by printing with painted autumn leaves. Other children patiently work with beads, while further children colour and cut out people shapes which they fold to sit on the edge of the table. These children are clearly proud of their achievements. Some children engage in indoor games such as table football, taking turns to play. A group of friends build with a construction set, planning and refining their work as they go. Children relax in the quiet area where they read books and magazines or listen to music. This provides them with good opportunities to chat with their friends or simply unwind after their day at school. The wide range of activities allows all children to find something to interest them and meet their individual preferences. Consequently children are content and behave well. Good relationships are established with the staff and other children, so promoting a happy and fun atmosphere.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed and included because staff implement the equal opportunities policy effectively. They ensure appropriate support is given to all children so that their needs as individuals are recognised and met. Children take an active role in suggesting themes and agreeing the code of behaviour for the club, which helps to develop their sense of belonging. They proudly show visitors their work displayed on the walls and photos of recent outings. Regular trips out during the holidays help to increase children's awareness of the wider world.

Children behave well and understand the agreed code of behaviour, such as the need to share resources and to take turns. Staff assist this by being positive role

models and handling any concerns in a fair and consistent manner. As a result, children are polite and generally show consideration for others. Friendly relationships are established with parents, which enables appropriate information to be easily exchanged. The use of notice boards, to display menus and play plans, and regular newsletters ensures parents are kept informed. The current complaint procedure does not reflect the new requirements regarding the investigation of complaints and there is no complaint log available within the setting. This means parents are not fully informed.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children's care is enhanced by the effective organisation of the club. Staff make good use of the indoor and outdoor space to maximise the play opportunities and choices available. Children benefit from being cared for by consistent staff who are skilled and suitably qualified. They are well deployed to ensure children are supervised and supported during activities.

Effective recruitment and vetting procedures ensure appropriate staff are appointed to work with the children. Clear induction systems and support for training means they have the appropriate knowledge and skills to care for the children. Children's care and welfare is supported by the use of appropriate documentation. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report. 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):

- update the complaint procedure to reflect recent changes to the regulations and establish a record in which any complaints may be recorded and shared with parents on request.

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