



Class of Their Own @ Stanford

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY296222
Inspection date	01 November 2005
Inspector	Christine McInally
Setting Address	Stanford Junior School, Stanford Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 5PR
Telephone number	01273 733337
E-mail	
Registered person	Class Of Their Own 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?

Class of Their Own @ Stanford opened in 2004. It operates from the lower hall in Stanford Junior School in Brighton. The out-of-school setting serves the local area.

Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting is able to support children with special needs and those who speak English as an additional language.

The setting opens five days a week during term-time and during school holidays. Sessions are from 15:30 -18:00 term-time and 08:30-17:30 during holidays. There are currently 80 children on roll.

There are five staff who work with the children. Over half the staff have early years or youth work qualifications to National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 2, 3 and 4, the supervisor is also a qualified NVQ assessor. The setting receives support from a mentor from the Early years Development and Childcare Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a worthwhile range of activities which help to promote their good health. They learn about the importance of good personal hygiene and understand why they need to wash their hands before eating food and after visiting the toilet.

Children enjoy a good range of physical activities that contribute to a healthy lifestyle; they play outside and extend their skills, on a daily basis. Children are skilled at using a variety of construction equipment and frequently use paper, card, recycled materials, scissors and glue for cutting and joining.

Meal times are sociable where children sit at the table with their friends and staff. They are provided with a range of healthy snacks including bread, cheese and fruit encouraging them to develop healthy eating practices. Children enjoy varied and nutritious food which complies with all special dietary requirements to ensure they remain healthy. However, the lack of children's involvement in the preparation of the snacks hampers their understanding of the need for a balanced diet.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their play in a safe environment where staff use risk assessments well to reduce potential hazards. Space within the club is well organised, allowing children to move around safely, freely and independently. Children are secure in the club and are enthusiastic explorers when playing outside with a variety of challenging physical play equipment.

Children use a range of good quality toys and resources appropriate to their age and stage of development. Children begin to learn to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe as they practise fire evacuation procedures and through their involvement in developing the club's safety rules.

Children's welfare is paramount and staff are clear about their duties and responsibilities as regards child protection. All of these measures contribute to the safety and welfare of the children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive happy and eager to participate, enjoying their time at the club; they are enthusiastic and confident in the welcoming environment. Children show considerable independence and make choices about the toys and resources they want to play with and enjoy opportunities to initiate activities for themselves. Children talk very positively about both the after school and holiday play scheme elements of the club.

There is a good range of appropriate resources that are used well to interest children and develop their learning. Staff give good support to children, question them effectively and provide increasing challenges. Consequently children are willing to attempt new experiences, and are well motivated to participate in the club. Staff form warm, caring relationships with the children and know them well. They spend a lot of time talking and playing with them. This means children are happy at the club and relate well to each other and to the adults present.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel good about themselves as staff treat them with respect. They develop self-esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions and make choices and decisions. All children are highly valued as individuals. The good use of information gathered from the parents and children when they first start at the club helps to meet their needs effectively. Staff have a positive attitude towards diversity and regularly plan activities which help to develop an understanding of other cultures.

Children discuss and help to develop the club behaviour rules. As a result they behave well, are enthusiastic and well motivated. Staff set consistent boundaries for children which helps them learn to negotiate with others and take responsibility for their own behaviour. Children with special needs integrate well with the group. All children respect and understand that some children need extra help and willingly support them.

A sound partnership with parents contributes to children's well-being while at the club. Staff are friendly and approachable and ensure that all parents feel welcome and receive useful information on the club.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are at ease in the well-organised environment. All children receive good support from a staff group that enjoys their company and knows them well helping them feel secure and confident. This means the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Staff work well as a team and clear policies and procedures help guide them in their daily practice. The induction programme and good teamwork make sure all staff work well together to promote children's health, enjoyment and achievement. Staff are

encouraged to enrol on relevant courses ensuring they have the latest and most relevant information available.

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):

- offer opportunities for children to be involved in the preparation of the snacks to further develop their understanding of healthy eating.

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