



# Knutton Training Activity Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY305864
<b>Inspection date</b>	25 October 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Maxine Williams
<b>Setting Address</b>	Knutton Lane, Newcastle, Staffordshire, ST5 6HF
<b>Telephone number</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Silverdale Out of School Club Management Committee
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day 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](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.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

K & S Out of School Club is run by Silverdale Out of School Club Management Committee. It opened in 2005 and operates from three rooms in Knutton Training Activity Centre in North Staffordshire. A maximum of 40 children may attend the club at any one time. The club opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 07:30 until 09:00 and 15:30 until 18:00 during term time and 07:30 until 18:00 during school holidays. Children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 25 children aged from 3 to 12 on roll. The club serves the local area and children attend for a variety of sessions. The club supports children with

special needs.

There are seven staff who work with the children, all of the staff have appropriate qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are encouraged to engage in a variety of physical activities which contribute to their good health. There are lots of opportunities for exercise, they engage in a wide variety of organised group games like football, tennis and hockey. This encourages the development of a positive attitude to exercise and promotes children's physical development. Effective procedures are in place for recording accidents, although not all entries are countersigned by parents. Written consent is not obtained from all parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. This means that children are not protected in the event of an emergency.

Children learn the importance of good hygiene through the clear procedures in place explaining why they must wash their hands after using the toilet, before snack time and after outside and creative play sessions. Children's dietary needs are met appropriately, drinking water is always available and sugar-free juice and a choice of fruit are supplied at snack time. Children are encouraged to have regular drinks of water after physical exertion, this helps promote their understanding of the effect of exercise on their bodies. The staff take account of the wishes of parents, who supply packed lunches when the children attend all day.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Hazards to children are reduced because the staff are very attentive and use detailed risk assessments to reduce possible risks. The outside area is checked by staff before outside play sessions to protect children's safety wellbeing. This means that children are able to move around safely, freely and independently. The staff give high priority to promoting children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe and to maintaining children's safety, both when at the setting and when out on trips. This means that children take responsibility for their own safety. Children are transported to and from school by staff, although no documentation is available in regard to the suitability of the vehicle, appropriate insurance or a valid driving licence. Also written parental permission to transport children in a vehicle has not been obtained.

Children select activities from a range of suitable creative and physical developmentally appropriate resources which meet safety standards. These are organised effectively to encourage independent access. The staff have a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of child abuse, and are aware of the correct reporting procedures. This ensures that children are protected from harm or neglect.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children settle well in the out of school club's welcoming environment. They confidently engage in self chosen play activities from the good quality range of available resources. Children benefit from taking part in the organised games both inside and outside. They are immersed in the activity of decorating poppies for a remembrance day celebration, which all of the children are invited to attend. Members of a visiting community arts group assist the children in learning about the Second World War, the children are supplied with resources to aid their understanding of the era and to give them ideas to decorate their poppies. This encourages children to become involved in community events and to learn about the past. Children gain pride and achievement from knowing that their poppies will be made into a textile hanging and displayed in the hall after the commemorative event.

Children are not always able to rest or play quietly according to their needs, as the layout of the room does not facilitate an appropriate quiet area. This means that children are not always able to rest safely without disturbance. Children are well supported by staff who take time to get to know each child. Staff talk to children and their parents in order to help children in settling into the club and providing a suitable range of activities that they will enjoy. Children enjoy decorating the hall with their artwork for the Halloween party and taking part in talent contests, for which they win prizes and certificates. They increase their confidence and self-worth as they develop positive relationships with staff members and with their peers.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The out of school club supplies a high quality and wide variety of activities and resources to encourage a positive outlook of the wider world and raise children's knowledge of diversity and their understanding of others. The children have extensive opportunities to find out about themselves and each other, and to gain knowledge of the wider world through planned activities, visits to theme parks and outings to local places of interest. For example, the children have recently visited a working farm and a zoo and regularly celebrate cultural festivals. The staff have a secure knowledge of special needs and are proactive in providing appropriate support and experiences. Children respond well in creative activities, representing what they see, hear, smell, taste and feel.

Children are comfortable in the setting, choosing activities and approaching staff and other children confidently. There are comprehensive behaviour management policies and procedures in place, which ensure that most children learn to negotiate with others and take responsibility for their own behaviour. However, some children do not respect the boundaries set and behave in an unacceptable manner, particularly children over the age of eight. Staff do not manage the negative behaviour effectively, which has a detrimental impact on the younger and quieter children. Relationships with parents are positive and friendly, children's individual needs are documented and staff are available to discuss any questions or concerns at the end

of each session. Information packs, including all relevant policies, are provided. This ensures that parents are aware of how the setting operates, enabling staff and parents to work together to meet the needs of the child.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

All policies and procedures are in place and are used effectively to promote the welfare, care and play of children. They are shared with parents to keep them well informed about the service and their child's activities. The induction programme and good teamwork ensure all staff work together well to promote children's health, enjoyment and achievement. There are clear systems in place for recording attendance and there is an appropriate level of staff to care for children.

The setting is a member of 4 Children and receives support from Newcastle and North Staffs Play Council. All staff are suitably qualified and regularly attend short courses and training to update their knowledge. This ensures that children are well protected and cared for by practitioners with current awareness and understanding of child development. Recruitment and vetting procedures are in place, although they have not been updated to take account of new regulations, regarding the responsibility of ensuring the suitability of staff. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

## **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):

- ensure parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment is in place for all children and that parents sign to acknowledge that they have been informed of accidents
- keep available for inspection documentation in regard to transporting children in a vehicle; including driving licence, MOT certificate and proof of appropriate business insurance; and obtain written permission from parents to transport children in a vehicle
- improve the provision for children who wish to relax or play quietly, in order that children can rest safely without disturbance
- develop strategies for managing the behaviour of children which are consistent with the setting's policy and known by the staff
- update recruitment procedures in line with current regulations in order that the suitability of staff is ensured.

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