

Culvers House Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

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EY235215

Inspection date

26/11/2009

Inspector

Kanwaljit Singh

Setting address

Culvers Community Room, Orchard Avenue, Mitcham,
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Telephone number

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Type of setting

Childcare on non-domestic premises

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Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

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Description of the setting

Culvers House Out of School Club is run by the London borough of Sutton Play Services. It opened in 2002 and operates from the community room of Culvers House School. It is situated in the grounds of the school in Mitcham Junction, Surrey. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. Links with the school have been established.

The club is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 26 children aged from four years to under eight years may attend the club at any one time. Currently there are 35 children on roll; of these two are in the early years age group.

The club runs an after school club and holiday club. The after school club is open each week day during school term time from 3.00pm to 5.45pm. The children come mainly from the Culvers House Primary School with two coming from the adjacent school. Children over the age of eight also attend. The holiday club attracts children from a wide catchment area and operates from 8.45am to 5.45pm. The club currently supports a number of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Five members of staff are employed. Of these, four hold Level 3 early years qualifications.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Culvers House Out of School Club effectively meets the needs of the children in the early years age group. Children are happy and work and play in a relaxed environment. Caring staff ensure all children are fully included in the activities provided. The club has made good improvement since the last inspection and has a good capacity for further improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- ensure assessments are linked to early learning goals in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, so progress can be tracked more accurately, and information shared with the school to further support the children's learning
- inform parents and children about the weekly planned activities and seek their views to further extend learning and enjoyment.
- ensure that assessments of children's progress are shared with the teachers in the school

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The club has effective policies and procedures in place that ensure children are very well protected and kept free from harm. The manager works closely with the whole team and creates a safe and welcoming environment for the children. Records of fire drills, risk assessments and any accidents are rigorously recorded. Attendance registers record the time of arrival and parents know that they must sign when they collect their child at the end of the session. All visitors are asked to show identity and sign in the book. The staff have up-to-date training in child protection procedures and have undergone the appropriate Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks. Staff are encouraged to attend additional training to develop their knowledge and understanding of the EYFS requirements.

Staff ensure that all children have an equal access to the good range of resources to extend learning. Partnership with parents is good. The staff have warm and positive relationships with parents who are welcomed when they come to collect their children and are kept well informed about their children's well-being. The club has close links with the main school and have had training from them. However, the club does not share any assessments they make of the children with the early years teachers in the school.

All recommendations from the last report have been successfully addressed. Staff know the strengths of the club and areas for further development. Consequently, they are well placed to move the club forward.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children enjoy coming to the club and take part in a good range of stimulating activities that effectively promote their learning. They confidently make choices of what games they are going to play and who they are going to play with. Staff efficiently supports them when they join in with children's activities and demonstrate how to extend their learning. For example, staff join in with a group painting their models made of recyclable materials and discuss the colour and shape. They wisely engage in skipping and playing with hoops in the outdoor area demonstrating how children can extend their skills. Young children are well supported when they play with dolls and in the home area. There is a good range of books and games to extend children's reading and mathematical skills. For example, a child playing with a mathematical game counts to 20. Children enjoyed playing with dolls of different ethnicity and solve problems of how to prevent them from falling by strapping them into their chairs.

Planning takes account of the children's needs, and interests and activities cover the six areas of learning. However, parents and children's views are not sought consistently to plan future activities to further extend learning and enhance enjoyment.

Staff have regular meetings to discuss children's progress. A good start has been made in observing and recording children's development in all six areas of learning. However, these assessments are not made using the statements from the EYFS framework, consequently, tracking and the measuring of children's progress is less accurate.

Children have a good understanding of what leads to a healthy lifestyle. They are keen to play outside with hoops, skipping ropes and ball games. They make good use of the small area designated for them. They enjoy healthy snacks on arrival at the club and this is a good social occasion for chit-chat. Personal hygiene is stressed as they wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Behaviour and relationships are strong and children play amicably together. Children learn to be independent as they choose from the easily accessible resources. They share resources very well and are respectful to each other and adults. Children know that the site is very secure and safe and they enjoy using the indoor and outdoor areas carefully and sensibly. The children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning. They are developing good independent learning and personal and social skills. Furthermore, an understanding of a healthy life style is being well promoted.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality
Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong
Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound
Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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