



Pop Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	314699
Inspection date	12 October 2005
Inspector	Diane Lynn Turner
Setting Address	65 Kirkland Street, Pocklington, York, North Yorkshire, YO42 2BX
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Registered person	Pop Club
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?

Pop Club was registered in 1994 and operates from Pocklington Community Junior School. The club has use of the new school dining hall and a hallway, which is separated from the main school building. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. It is open Monday to Friday from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.15 to 18.00 during term time and from 08.00 to 18.00 during the school holidays, with the exception of the week between Christmas and the new year. The club has use of the school playground and a grassed area for outdoor play.

There are currently 160 children aged from 4 to 11 years on roll who come from the

junior school and other local schools. The club supports children with special needs and those whose first language is not English.

The club employs seven members of staff, all of whom work on a part time basis. Three of the staff including the two managers have appropriate playwork and childcare qualifications. The club is working towards the quality assurance award Aiming High.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is outstanding.

Children's health within the setting is supported extremely well by staff who have a very secure knowledge and understanding of the club's health and hygiene procedures. For example, those preparing food have undertaken training in food hygiene and follow excellent procedures when preparing meals such as afternoon tea. Tables are thoroughly cleaned before food is served and there is a clear policy for the care of children who are ill so parents know when they shouldn't attend.

Children are very independent in their self care. They have an excellent understanding of why they need to wash their hands before eating and readily do so at all times. They have an extremely positive attitude towards physical exercise and thoroughly enjoy using the outdoor area where they are able to use equipment such as balls and hoops and take part in games such as "tag" to develop their physical skills. They understand the effect that exercise has on their bodies and are able to sit quietly and rest according to their needs. Innovative ideas such as attending the local Buddhist centre to learn about meditation helps them to understand the importance of relaxation as well as being active.

Children understand the importance of taking regular drinks. They have a choice of drink at afternoon tea and help themselves to water throughout the session when they become thirsty. They gain an excellent understanding of healthy eating and the value of good nutrition through a range of exciting activities. For example, they enjoy visits from the "food lab", take part in fruit tasting and join other providers to take part in presentations such as "fast fit foods" to learn about nutrition and exercise. They are offered a range of varied and nutritious foods at meal times which comply with their individual dietary needs to ensure they remain healthy. Meal times such as afternoon tea are very well organised and are pleasant occasions when the children demonstrate excellent manners and social skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a very well maintained and organised environment. Their risk of accidental injury is minimised effectively because staff are vigilant and use thorough risk assessments to reduce potential hazards. They involve the children in developing the club's safety rules and as a result the children have a good

understanding of keeping themselves safe. The children know they must not access the school's nature reserve and that they only use the grassed area as a whole group. They are aware of the club's emergency evacuation procedures and practice these regularly so they know what to do in the event of a fire. Staff sensitively remind them to use safe practices as they play. For example, they talk to the children about using resources correctly.

Children have access to a range of equipment that is appropriate to their age and stage of development. They are able to make choices from a range of activities and resources throughout the session. Staff vary the activities to maintain the children's interest and they are able to request particular equipment if they wish. Staff are vigilant in checking the safety of resources on a daily basis to ensure they are maintained in a safe condition and that the children are able to use them effectively.

Children are well protected by staff who have a clear understanding of the club's policies and procedures in regard to protecting children from possible abuse. They all attend training in child protection, have a good understanding of their responsibilities and know what to do if they have concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic and self assured in the club's welcoming environment. They particularly enjoy this time at the end of the school day when they can relax or be active in accordance with their needs and interests. They are offered a very good range of activities and resources that maintain their interest and develop their learning. For example, during the after school sessions they are able to use construction and craft materials and access the outdoor area as they choose. During the holiday schemes they are offered a range of exciting activities planned around themes such as the jungle, the ocean and the countryside. The children have very good opportunities to direct their own play. Many take an active part in activities such as using the computer and outdoor games whilst others select quieter activities such as craft, board games and drawing.

Children are well supported by the staff who are skilled at encouraging them to extend their experiences. They listen with interest to what the children have to say and develop close relationships with them. They discuss the programme of activities regularly with the children and encourage and value their opinions as to what should be included. Very good support is provided for the younger ones and those who are new to the group to help them settle in. For example, staff explain about the role of the children's committee and how they can make their opinions known by using the suggestions box. A harmonious atmosphere is evident during the sessions. The children are happy, settled, well behaved and very keen to talk about their time at the club.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

All children are warmly welcomed into the club and are valued and respected as individuals. Staff discuss their individual needs with their parents and meet these very well. The children enjoy excellent relationships with the staff and each other, which are mutually respectful. They show concern for the welfare of others and have excellent opportunities to develop their self-esteem and confidence. They are able to voice their opinions and make choices and decisions. For example, they have excellent opportunities to be involved in decision making about how the club should operate and what activities are provided. They are encouraged to sit on the children's committee which meets regularly with the staff to discuss a range of issues and are able to make their feelings known at other times by using the suggestion box.

Children learn about the wider world and their own community through a range of very exciting activities. They visit the local Buddhist centre and learn about other faiths, festivals and customs. For example, they enjoy activities such as henna hand painting, and learn about the significance of the Chinese dragon. They learn about their local community as they take part in activities such as dance and drama workshops at the local secondary school, visit a farm and follow an interest trail around the town.

Children's behaviour is excellent. They know what is expected of them because they discuss and help to draw up the behaviour rules for the club. Staff talk to the younger children regularly to ensure they understand and follow these. For example, they remind them to use the club's resources with respect and clearly explain the possible consequences of not doing so. The older children demonstrate a very responsible attitude. For example, they ask if the sound of the computer is distracting others and willingly offer to turn this down. They are very polite, demonstrate good manners and follow the rules for sharing of equipment such as the computer very well.

A very effective partnership with parents contributes significantly to the children's well being in the club. For example, parents are provided with extremely well presented newsletters that keep them fully informed about the activities the children have been involved in. Relationships between the staff and parents are very positive. They are made very welcome and good communication is evident. Parents are very keen to praise both the provision and the staff.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are cared for in a well organised environment. Staff are aware of their responsibilities and work very well together as a team. There are sufficient, suitably qualified members and they all show a commitment to improving their knowledge and developing their practice. For example, they all attend training in child protection and first aid and many attend short courses to help them support activities such as music. They are well supported by the committee and regular meetings are held to review the provision and identify where improvements can be made.

The indoor and outdoor space is organised well to maximise play opportunities for the children. Activities are well planned and on the whole policies and procedures are clear and used effectively to promote the care and welfare of the children. All legally

required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place. It is kept up to date and stored securely to maintain confidentiality but very occasionally lacks the necessary detail. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

The previous inspection recommended that club give consideration to the acquisition of storage for coats and bags. Coat pegs are now in place to accommodate such items, which has added significantly to organisation.

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 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):

- ensure records of any accidents that occur are signed consistently by the parent
- review the existing vetting procedures for staff to ensure these are in line with current legislation.

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