

F.A.S.T. After School Club & Holiday Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	309656
Inspection date	25/02/2010
Inspector	Denise Sixsmith
Setting address	Farington Primary School, Rose Street, Farington, Leyland, PR25 4GH
Telephone number	01772 421977
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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

FAST Out of School Club opened in 1991, and is run by a committee. It operates from the creative room and the school hall of Farington Primary School, Farington, Leyland. Children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The club opens five days a week during school term times from 8am to 8.55am and 3.15pm to 6pm and serves the local area.

The out of school club is registered by Ofsted to provide care for a maximum of 40 children at any one time under the age of eight years old. The club is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently 11 children on roll in the early years group.

There are five members of staff who hold early years qualifications to at least level 2. The two supervisors hold a level 3 qualification. The club receives support from the local authority.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are safe and comfortable in the club, which enables them to settle and enjoy their learning through play. There are clear policies and procedures which are reviewed and updated as required. The management team and staff receive support from and work well with the committee, to ensure the children enjoying their time at the club at the beginning and end of their school day. Sound systems are in place to monitor the quality of the provision, which takes into account the feedback from parents and children. Ongoing discussions with parents and carers ensure children's individual care needs are met very well, and staff ensure that they make good progress in their learning and development while at the club.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure that all members of staff are given copies of the safeguarding children and promoting equality of opportunity policies and procedures
- update the record of risk assessment to include any assessments of risks for outings
- review the format of the children's details forms to ensure consistency and update the medication policy to reflect the practise of maintaining a record of medication administered.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded appropriately by dedicated and caring staff. Clear recruitment and vetting procedures are in place to ensure that all staff working with children are suitable to do so. Checks are undertaken daily by staff to eliminate and manage risks within the building and outdoor area. An assessment of the journey from school to the club has been undertaken, but has not been recorded in the written risk assessment. All other required records are in place, although there are discrepancies in the formatting of the children's registration forms with regards to signatures and dates. Staff are vigilant in ensuring that the premises are secure, and that children only leave with known or agreed persons. Staff follow clear procedures to promote children's good health and well-being. For example, accident records are in place and shared with parents as required and all staff have undertaken first aid training. Staff have obtained a clear understanding of their role in child protection through training, and higher level training has been booked for two staff members. Clear policy and procedures are in place and shared with staff and parents, however, staff do not have their own copy of specified policies. The hall is suitably organised into areas of activity, and resourced with good quality safe toys and equipment that are checked as they are set out by staff.

Evaluation systems highlight ongoing improvements for the club, and the recommendations set at the last inspection have been addressed to improve the care and development of the children. These include the development of children's independence, social interactions at snack time and aspects of health and hygiene. Staff have been supported by the committee to undertake training to ensure that the required staff qualifications are met. Appropriate relationships with the other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage are in place, to ensure that the care needs of the children are shared through a diary system. However, the sharing of children's learning and development is less well developed.

Staff have formed friendly relationships with parents and carers of the children. Prior to children starting at the club care information is gathered to ensure that their individual needs are met. An introductory information leaflet, newsletters, questionnaires and parents evenings ensure that parents are kept informed of the service and their children's progress. Children's ongoing welfare is promoted through daily written and verbal exchanges with staff. Parents spoken to value the club and are happy with the service they receive for their children. They comment on the fact that their children always have a smile on their faces when at the club.

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

Children are very happy and settled within the club, and staff ensure that they have an enjoyable productive time during the sessions. Staff have developed trusting relationships that effectively promote children's self-esteem and confidence. Children are keen to express themselves and their ideas, because staff

use good questioning and discussion techniques to help children think and solve problems for themselves. They enjoy free access to a range of craft materials, and enjoy sticking and cutting while they talk to staff about their experiences and preferences. Children are engrossed in making colourful clay insects and animals. They develop their creativity through the decoration of face masks with glitter and a variety of mixed craft resources. Games and activities are used suitably to promote early mathematical skills. For example, children confidently use number during board games and while keeping the score in table tennis. Children access a suitable range of resources that reflect diversity. Their knowledge and experiences are further developed as craft and activities are linked to festivals of the world regularly. Children experience daily opportunities to access information and communication technology to support their learning for example through access to the computer. These experiences provided for children enable them to develop skills for the future. Staff have set up individual learning folders for the younger children. This ensures that through observations and planning children make good progress in their learning and development.

Staff ensure that children learn to be safe because they have club safety rules in place. Children are regularly reminded of these, for example, not to run on the stage or open the main door. They undertake fire drills to ensure that they can evacuate the premises appropriately in an emergency. Children learn to be healthy through engaging in outdoor play and having fruit at snack time. They are encouraged to try a variety of exotic fruits and some vegetables to develop their tastes. Staff provide positive role models for the children and ensure that positive behaviour is praised and children's achievements valued. Children are very courteous and readily undertake helpful tasks like preparing snack and holding doors open for others. Consequently, children's behaviour is good.

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?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

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

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