

Kidzone Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	309648
Inspection date	19/01/2010
Inspector	Denise Sixsmith
Setting address	Methodist Chapel Hall, Chapel Road, Hesketh Bank, Preston, PR4 6RT
Telephone number	07941 881 776
Email	
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

Kidzone Out of school Club is a committee run service based within the Methodist Church Hall buildings. It is situated on a road that is adjacent to the main road through the village of Hesketh Bank, Lancashire. The club has sole use of the building during operating times and the children have access to a large central hall that can be divided by a screen to provide a Café area, a smaller quiet play room and a kitchen is available where snacks can be prepared and lunches stored. A semi-enclosed grassed outside play area is available to the children, weather permitting. The club provides care before and after school and during school holidays.

The club is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 35 children may attend the club at any one time. There are currently 25 children on roll, of whom four are in the early years age group. There is a team of three staff of whom two hold level 3 childcare qualifications. The club receives support from the Local Authority.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The management and staff do not have a sufficient knowledge and understanding of the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Consequently, several specific legal requirements are not being met, which compromises children's safety and well-being. Children are warmly welcomed into the club by the experienced staff and benefit from positive and caring relationships which make them feel valued. Children are treated as individuals by staff and the partnership with parents and others is sound which contributes to ensuring that children's needs are met. The self-assessment process is in its infancy which means that assessment is not being set against rigorous criteria.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure the designated person with lead responsibility for safeguarding children within the setting attends a child protection training course (Safeguarding and welfare) 09/02/2010
- ensure that there are at least two adults on duty in the setting at any time when children are present (Staffing arrangements) (also applies to both parts of the 09/02/2010

- Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of any significant changes or events relating to the premises on which childcare is provided (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 09/02/2010
- ensure that the record of the risk assessment clearly states when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident. (Documentation) 09/02/2010

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop the self-assessment system to ensure that it is conducted against robust and challenging quality criteria.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are not adequately safeguarded because the management and staff do not have a sufficient knowledge of the statutory requirements of the EYFS. Staff are qualified and experienced in childcare and generally maintain adult to child ratios. However, this is not the case at all times throughout the session, for example, on the occasions when a member of staff is left alone with the children on the premises during collections from school activity clubs. This is a breach of requirements and compromises children's safety. During the inclement weather the children were cared for on premises that were not registered and Ofsted was not contacted or informed, which constituted a breach to requirements. Risk assessment are in place, however, they have not been signed or dated, which is a further breach to requirements. The providers of the service have not notified Ofsted of the changes to the manager or individuals who are members or nominated person of the committee. This is an offence unless the provider gives a reasonable excuse. On this occasion the provider did so and Ofsted does not intend to take further action. Doors are secured to keep children safe and staff are vigilant in ensuring the setting is made safe prior to children attending.

The club has a set of clear policies and procedures which are shared with parents. Staff have attended first aid training to ensure their knowledge is up-to-date and a first aid box is in place to enable them to deal appropriately with minor accidents. All of the recommendations raised at the last inspection have been acted upon to improve safety, care and learning for the children. Meetings are in place between the committee and staff, however, at present the self-evaluation process is in its infancy. Consequently, the capacity to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the setting are at present limited. Staff ensure that children's individual records are appropriately stored and confidentiality is maintained. Children's understanding of difference and diversity is suitably addressed. The key person system ensures children form strong relations with persons who know them well and are aware of their individual needs. Children have ample choices as they play in a spacious hall and a smaller cosier room which are both set out to ensure that they have a good variety of resources to choose from.

Parents speak positively about the provision stating they find the staff friendly and approachable. They comment on the welcoming and relaxed atmosphere. Parents gain information about their children's progress as they talk to staff on a daily basis about their care and general activities. Required information is obtained from parents with regards to their children's requirements prior to them starting the group. Parents spoken to are fully supportive of the club and value the commitment and approachability of the staff. The club has a positive working relationship with the school that the children attend.

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

The staff are building up a secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They understand the importance of purposeful play to help children prepare for life and support the children's learning through encouragement, praise and role modelling. Key workers undertake photographic and written observations of the children at play and have produced a development folder for each child. Children make satisfactory progress towards the early learning goals because they experience a range of activities across each area of learning. They enjoy exploring in their play through a planned monthly schedule, which allows them a combination of free play and adult-supported activities. For example, children enjoy the home corner, board games, craft, dressing up and outdoor play. Children enjoy books and quiet times and chats in the comfortable small room available for this purpose.

Staff ensure that children learn to be safe because they have safety rules in place. Children are reminded of these by staff as required and 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 access to fruit and water at snack time. Staff provide good role models for the children and ensure that positive behaviour is praised and children's achievements are valued. Consequently, children's behaviour is good and they have confident and happy dispositions. Children happily enter the club after their walk from the school and soon settle into the sessions routine. Children establish warm and stable relationships with staff and other children, and actively seek out other children in their play. For example, they enjoy playing in the play tent where they take turns pretending to be 'Snow White', or enjoy table top games and snooker. Children develop independence due to the arrangement of resources and encouragement from staff; they readily help themselves to craft materials or relax and play quietly in the small room. Staff help children develop skills for life through activities that promote a positive attitude to learning and enable them to learn about difference and the wider world.

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?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	4
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
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	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	4
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

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

Not Met (with actions)

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

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for, Changes to premises and provision) 09/02/2010
- ensure that Ofsted is informed of changes of circumstances no later than 14 days after the change occurs (Providing information to Ofsted) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 09/02/2010

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for, Changes to premises and provision) 09/02/2010
- take action as specified in the compulsory Childcare Register section of the report (Providing information to Ofsted) 09/02/2010