

Groovy Kidz

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date 19/05/2010
Inspector Tony Anderson

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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

Groovy Kidz out of school club opened in 2005. It is registered to a private individual and operates from Bardsey Primary School in the village of Bardsey near Wetherby. Children have access to the lower school hall and external playground facilities. The club is open Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 9am and from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time and from 8am to 6pm during school holidays. It is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The club is registered to cater for up to 24 children under eight years of age, of these, none may be under three years. It also offers care to older children up to 11 years. There are currently 35 children on roll, of these, 24 are under eight and, of these, three are in the early years age group. The club has procedures in place to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and for those who speak English as an additional language. There are currently three members of staff, the majority of whom hold relevant early years qualifications. The manager holds a level 3 qualification and one member of staff is qualified to level 2. The club has links with the local authority.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Staff provide children with an effective range of play resources and successfully promote most aspects of welfare and care. Observations of young children have recently been introduced but staff do not yet link these to the planning of individuals' next steps of development. Partnerships with parents and carers and the host school are good and these are used effectively to enhance children's learning and development. Management is gradually developing a system of self-evaluation and its capacity for further improvement is satisfactory.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop systems of self-evaluation in order to improve the identification of the club's strengths and areas for improvement
- improve the use and effectiveness of observations of children in order to support the planning of their next steps of development
- ensure that full records are maintained of the regular risk assessments and fire evacuation drills.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Recruitment and required vetting systems to support safeguarding are fully in place and staff are appropriately qualified for their roles and responsibilities. Welfare systems and procedures, such as the care given to children following

occasional minor accidents, are good overall. However, there are some inconsistencies in the recording of the frequent risk assessments of the site and of the regular fire and evacuation drills. Observations and notes of young children's interests and skills are being slowly introduced by management. Staff use such information to decide on the availability of activities but do not yet use it sufficiently to plan for individuals' next steps of development. Equality of opportunity is promoted well by the club's staff and children are encouraged to join in occasional events which are linked to different world faiths and celebrations. The use and deployment of both internal and external resources is good and this adds to children's progress and development.

Parents and carers say that they appreciate the work of the club's management in providing a happy and secure environment for their children. Good use is made of the club's walls to provide them with helpful advice and information. The management keeps parents and carers well informed about their child's progress through regular informal discussions. The club's relationship with external agencies including the host school is good and this helps to enhance children's progress and development. The club's systems of self-evaluation are in a developmental state. This means that, as yet, the management does not consistently identify and act upon areas for improvement.

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

The large and colourful setting of the host school's lower hall presents a very suitable environment for learning through play. The friendly and experienced staff create a weekly flexible plan which lists various activities linked to the six areas of early years learning. This includes a present focus on healthy eating and creative activities. A well designed range of posters linked to healthy eating adorns the club's walls and sample healthy snack menus, including a wide range of fruit and vegetables, are also on display. A very large white sheet of paper situated near to the main entrance invites children to list games they would like to play and it is full of well thought-out ideas and suggestions.

There is a good range of toys, games and activities available. Some boys enjoy playing a construction game from a wide range of boxed resources. Other children enjoy the challenge of a game of pool. Various tables around the club are set out with board games and some have blank paper for children to draw and colour. The management makes good use of a number of thick mats which they place on the floor to maintain a safe environment for play activities. The present focus within the club of flag making towards the forthcoming world cup in South Africa enhances young children's creative development. Staff are cleverly linking this sporting focus to maps of the world and to different cultures, adding to children's knowledge and understanding of the world.

Adults encourage all children to take part in daily 'Change4Life' activities with names, such as stand up, ball chase, yo-yo, star jumps and badminton. These different forms of activity support their physical development and healthy exercise. Children consistently wash their hands before eating and after visiting the toilet, thus demonstrating their understanding of good hygiene practices and helping to

keep them safe.

Well organised, imaginative and flexible planning helps to ensure the children's overall safety and provides them with a good range of choices. Children are encouraged to make a positive contribution to the club's environment and they demonstrate good attitudes and behaviour. They show a good sense of belonging and they interact well with staff and with each other. They demonstrate knowledge of the club's rules by their considered actions and their happy, smiling faces show how much they enjoy visiting the club. Staff often use praise and encouragement in order to promote children's development and, as a result, children make good progress in their learning of future skills.

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	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	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
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	3
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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