



Dynamites After School and Holiday Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY311423
Inspection date	16 November 2005
Inspector	Carolyn Mary Hasler
Setting Address	Eversley Primary School, Chaseville Park Road, London, N21 1PD
Telephone number	
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Registered person	Anne Elizabeth Godwin
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Dynamites After School and Holiday Club has been registered since 2005.

It operates from Eversley Infant School which is situated in a residential area in Winchmore Hill N21. The after school club is registered for up to 26 children aged between 4 to under 8 years, older children up to the age of 11 years also attend, they operate between 15:30 to 17:45 term time only. The holiday club is registered for up to 40 children aged 4 to 8 years, older children up to the age of 11 years also attend, they operate between 08:30 to 17:50 Monday to Friday during the school holidays. There are 50 children on roll, some attend on a part time basis.

The club use the main hall, dining hall, children's toilets and the grassed and paved outside play area. There is a staff room and kitchen. There are up to six staff who work at the Clubs, of whom four hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children begin to recognise the importance of being healthy, they help themselves to drinks recognising when they feel thirsty. They make their own decision about when they have their snack as they freely access the bowl of fruit or biscuits provided by staff or eat food which has been brought in from home. Children are offered some healthy choices, however the setting does not sufficiently promote healthy eating. The registered person has agreed to work with parents to ensure children develop their understanding.

Most children recognise the benefits of vigorous exercise and enjoy daily opportunities to participate in activities developing their co-ordination and skills, for example playing football and cricket, although some groups are not sufficiently encouraged to access more physical activities. Children know that washing their hands after visiting the toilet and before eating helps prevent the spread of germs, however children are not encouraged to develop their self care skills and understanding of personal hygiene. For example children are not reminded to flush the toilet or wash their hands after going to the toilet or before eating their snacks. The registered person has agreed to promote good hygiene skills.

Children's health is maintained by staff that have relevant first aid training. Accidents and the administration of medication are recorded. Staff implement effective hygiene procedures to minimise the risk of infection, for example tables are cleaned with disinfectant and good hygiene is used when preparing snacks.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to a well organised play space which allows them to choose between inside and outdoor play. Children access a good range of well maintained and good quality play equipment and resources which are carefully selected to ensure they are developmentally appropriate for the children present.

Children begin to learn about keeping themselves safe through discussions with staff. Children know not to run in the hall and not to hide in the bushes while playing in the play ground. They understand that staff need to know where they are in order to keep them safe. Children become aware of safe practices through staff vigilance and verbal reminders, however this is not always consistent. Children lack experience in the practice of fire drills which take place infrequently, this may impact on the ability of the staff to safe guard children.

Children are generally kept safe, there are good security procedures for collecting children, and staff are generally vigilant of children's safety while they play. However, infrequent risk assessments means that children's safety is likely to be compromised. Procedures to record visitors to the group are not consistently applied. As a result, there are instances when children's welfare is not fully safeguarded. The registered person has agreed to take more responsibility in minimising risks.

The Registered person has a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child. The remaining staff, however, are not secure in their understanding of child protection and the new procedure which follows local Child Protection Guild-lines has not yet been made available to staff. As a consequence, there are instances when children's welfare is not fully safeguarded.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are enthusiastic and self assured in the club's welcoming environment, they enjoy this time at the end of the school day when they can relax or be active, in accordance with their needs and interests. Children can sit and chat with their friends, read books or play more boisterous games in the play ground.

There is a good range of well maintained resources, however children are limited to the resources which have been chosen for them as storage does not allow children sufficient access.

Whilst staff have good ideas for activities they are not secure in their planning which sometimes means children lack challenge and variety. The registered person has agreed to ensure that children have varied experiences which challenge their thinking.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children show good levels of confidence and self esteem because staff praise and encourage them continually helping to increase their sense of achievement. This means that relationships they build with staff and other children are positive experiences. They play well and co-operate with each other taking turns and sharing popular pieces of equipment. Children comply with the settings rules but do not share in their development, staff help children to think about their actions and how they might resolve conflict in a sensitive way.

Children benefit because staff have a secure knowledge of their families and home circumstances and they gain an awareness of themselves and an understanding of the wider world through imaginative small world play and role play. Children begin to learn about various customs and festivals and begin to increase their awareness of a range of cultures, although this has not been sufficiently reflected through resources and staff are not secure in their knowledge of different cultures, disability and gender

issues. The registered person has agreed to support children's sense of community.

Children benefit greatly from friendly and supportive relationships between staff and parents and secure links between home and the setting. Partnerships with parents are good and parents are kept informed about care arrangements and behaviour, they lack information about activities. Parents feel that their children are well cared for.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The registered person is secure in her knowledge of recruitment and is in the process of ensuring that the setting procedures are robust. However staff files are not kept on the premises and it is unclear how procedures have been implemented.

Staff have the opportunity for professional development and the registered provider actively encourages staff to attend training. Good teamwork makes sure that all staff work together well to promote children's health, enjoyment and achievement.

Most policies and procedures are effectively implemented. However, whilst the registered person is secure in her knowledge of policy changes, staff have insufficient information to make policy changes effective and this under-minds their understanding and implementation. Staff lack a clear understanding of their strengths and weaknesses as they do not have regular team meetings and their work is not evaluated.

Children benefit from qualified and experienced staff that are very caring. All children receive good support from a staff group that enjoy their company and know them well helping them feel secure and confident. Information kept about children is relevant and helps promote their welfare. Regular informal discussions with parents ensure continuity of care for the children. Although the organisation of the setting feels chaotic children are enjoying and achieving.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made by Ofsted

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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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):

- take measures to encourage children to practise good hygiene and understand how to keep themselves healthy
- improve children's knowledge and understanding of healthy foods by working closely with parents to offer healthy snacks
- take action to ensure that risk assessments are carried out regularly, ensure that they detail how risks and hazards have been actioned
- develop activity plans which inform parents about themes and project work and review activities to provide variety; ensure that children are sufficiently challenged
- develop knowledge and understanding of equal opportunities and develop play resources to reflect, gender and disability issues
- take action to ensure that staff have up to date information about new policies and procedures (behaviour management, child protection), ensure staff have a full understanding of how to implement policy changes
- provide access to records and devise a system to appraise the effectiveness of staff and support their management and planning

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