



Handsworth Primary School After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	153678
Inspection date	08 November 2005
Inspector	Shawleene Campbell
Setting Address	32 Handsworth Avenue, Chingford, London, E4 9PJ
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Registered person	Forest YMCA of East London
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?

Handsworth Primary After School Club is one of the many out of school provisions managed by Forest YMCA. It opened in 2001 and operates from Handsworth Primary School. It is situated in Chingford an area of Waltham Forest. A maximum of 32 children may attend the setting at any one time. The provision is open each weekday from 15:30 to 18:00 during term time. All children have access to a secure outdoor play area.

There are currently five children aged from 5 to under 8 years on roll. Care is also provided for children over 8 years. The provision is only for pupils who attend the

school.

The provision employs four staff, one of whom is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy physical exercise and learn the importance of an active lifestyle when they engage in a range of organised play in the playground and sports hall. Children play in a clean environment where they learn to follow good hygiene practices, such as washing their hands before snack time. Before children are seated for snack time the staff wipe down tables to ensure they are clean and hygienic. Children understand the importance of covering their mouth when they cough so they do not spread germs.

Children receive nutritious snacks, which includes fruit. Though the limited variety and lack of encouragement from staff to have fruit does not capture children's interest, and as a result most children do not have fruit at snack time. Children are offered regular drinks. Snack time is used as a social occasion. However children's independence is not encouraged to prepare snacks and self-serve.

Staff hold current first aid certificates and there are appropriate procedures in place to respond to accidents and share information with parents to ensure continuity of care.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment. They benefit from moving around in a spacious setting, which allows them to be independent. A good deployment of staff ensures the safety of the children at all times. Daily risk assessments are carried out by staff. However, potential dangers are not promptly addressed to maximise children's safety at all times. There are good procedures in place to ensure the safe collection of children.

Children have easy and safe access to a good range of resources that are age and stage appropriate. Children are encouraged to self select resources and take control of their own play. There are robust procedures in place for child protection. However, staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and their role in protecting children is poor.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and well settled in their environment. They play harmoniously

together and have formed good relationships with their peers and staff. Children independently choose from a range of activities that are easily accessible and provide sufficient challenge. The organisation of activities allows children to engage in both group and quiet play activities.

Children enjoy participating in real life activities, such as dressing up and shops with a cash register. Children are able to concentrate for long periods, for example making replacement bones for the operation game. They are developing their skills in turn taking, negotiating space and working as a team as they play soft football. New children are supported well by staff.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally well behaved. The group's ground rules are clearly understood by all children and they know what is expected of them. Staff use appropriate strategies according to age and stage of development that help children understand right from wrong.

Relationships with parents are friendly and staff ensure parents feel welcomed. At point of registration information is given to parents about the organisation. Staff are available to talk to parents regarding children's play at the end of the session share information in relation to children's well-being. However, important information about the procedure for complaints has not been formally shared with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The club's policy and procedures ensure that staff are appropriately vetted. Personal records are held for each child and are securely stored. However, not all relevant information is kept on site for staff.

Staff receive regular support from the organisation's coordinator and there are opportunities for staff to attend training to develop their child care practices. Nevertheless the play leader is currently working towards a level 3 qualification and 50% of the staff do not meet the required minimum qualification.

The setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to; provide opportunities for staff to achieve a level 3 qualification; improve children's independence at snack time; develop an action plan to show how staff will have the opportunity to attend a Food and Hygiene course and improve staff knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

Some progress has been made to ensure staff achieve a level 3 qualification.

Children's independence is still not encouraged at snack time to prepare snacks and self-serve. Insufficient progress has been made for a member of staff to attend a Food and Hygiene course and staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues is poor.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 to Ofsted.

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 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):

- produce an updated action plan detailing how staff will meet the required minimum 50% qualification.
- improve staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues
- improve risk assessments procedures to ensure children's safety at all times.
- improve procedures for sharing the complaints procedure with parents and who to contact

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