

Cool Kids Out of School Ltd

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY402937
Inspection date	30/07/2010
Inspector	Barbara Christine Wearing
Setting address	St John's Vicarage, Irlam Road, Urmston, MANCHESTER, M41 6AP
Telephone number	07720 053601
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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

Cool Kids Out of School Ltd at St John's Vicarage opened in 2009 and is one of three out of school provisions run by Cool Kids Out of School Ltd. Children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The club is situated in the Flixton area of Trafford. It is open during school holidays, apart from the Christmas period, from 8am to 6pm.

The club is registered to provide care to 40 children aged three to eight years. It also offers care to children from eight years to over 11 years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Childcare Register. There are currently 19 children on roll, of whom eight are in the early years age range.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are confident and have fun at the out of school club. Staff are aware of children's individual personalities and needs and cater for these accordingly. Since registration the manager has worked hard to ensure that all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are met. She has good links with the local authority development workers and has identified areas for future development that will have a positive impact on children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- provide children a selection of healthy snacks, enabling them to make healthy eating choices
- ensure all staff are fully aware of their own and the manager's role within the club's child protection procedures
- review how toys and resources are stored to encourage children to access a further range during the day
- develop systems for recording observations and assessments, using these to evaluate how effectively children's needs are being met and to inform future planning
- provide further opportunities for children to learn about our diverse society and build a respect for others
- continue to develop self-evaluation systems, incorporating the views of staff, parents and children.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded as the manager has a good understanding of the club's clear child protection policy. Staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse

and of their duty to refer any concerns to their manager. However, they are not fully aware of the procedures the manager should take to ensure children are fully protected. All necessary records, policies and procedures are in place to further promote children's welfare and safety. Comprehensive risk assessments demonstrate the very high regard given to ensuring that children are safe on the regular trips they go on with the club. These trips offer children a great range of experiences and enable them to develop a range of skills and take risks within a safe environment. They include visits to museums, a trip on the Mersey Ferry, nature trails and wet play sessions.

Children freely choose from an adequate range of toys and resources. A selection of these is set out for the children with more available in storage boxes around the room. Staff deploy themselves well in response to children as they choose to play indoors or outdoors. They follow the children's lead and offer children support in their play while allowing them opportunities to play independently.

The manager has begun a self-evaluation of the provision. This accurately highlights the club's strengths and some areas for development. Children's views are sought when evaluating trips and their opinions are considered in future plans. Systems are in place to communicate with staff. These include daily verbal discussions regarding children and planning, the use of a daily diary and staff meetings. Staff are encouraged to take part in training, demonstrating the manager's commitment to their professional development.

The club has devised various effective ways to engage with parents. They are made aware of the club's policies and procedures through their information booklet. The club's website gives information regarding activities for each holiday club. It also gives access to consent forms, booking forms and child record forms which parents complete before their children start at the club. Therefore, staff are fully aware of children's individual needs and parents' wishes. These are catered for accordingly. Feedback from parents is positive. They appreciate that their opinions and ideas are valued. Also, the efforts that staff make to reassure parents regarding the welfare of their children, for example during trips out. The club is not currently caring for children who attend other settings during the school holidays that deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Nevertheless, the manager is aware of the importance of building links with such settings if and when necessary.

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

Staff know the children well. The vast majority of children also attend the before and after school club run by the same provider. Children are encouraged to complete an 'all about me' record when they first come to the club. This gives them an opportunity to let staff know their likes, dislikes and interests. Staff use this knowledge to plan activities for the children they are caring for. Basic plans are written for a daily, adult-directed activity. These are very flexible and staff are skilled in allowing children make their own decisions in their play. No systems are currently in place to record observations of individual children. However, this has

been identified by the manager as an area to develop in order to enhance the outcomes for children and ensure they continue to meet children's needs.

Children of different ages generally get along well. They spend time playing with children of the same age and within mixed age groups. They learn to sort out disagreements with the support of staff, who gently remind them of the club rules and to treat each other with respect. All children are confident and assertive, demonstrating that they feel safe and secure within the club.

Children are free to rearrange the room and adapt the planned activities. Therefore, they are highly creative and imaginative in their play. They make excellent use of the range of natural play resources. Children enthusiastically rearrange tables, covering them with fabric to make dens and putting the play resources inside them. Another group of children use cardboard and construct a shop with the support of staff. They busily bring items to sell, write out price tags and negotiate who will be customers and who will be the manager. Children demonstrate their excellent communication skills and practise their literacy and mathematics skills in a fun and meaningful way.

Knowledge and understanding of the world are promoted through the many trips out. Children take part in activities, tasting foods from different cultures or countries. Staff respond appropriately when children observe differences between people. However, there are few activities or resources that encourage children to make such observations, thereby limiting their opportunities to learn about our diverse society. Children enjoy using various creative art materials. They proudly show adults hats and peg dolls they have made.

Healthy lifestyles are promoted as children play outdoors. They enjoy playing games including football and baseball. Some snacks offer healthy choices such as fruit and children take part in activities such as making fruit kebabs. However, morning snacks sometimes consist of sugar-coated cereals. Children recognise when they are thirsty and remain hydrated as fresh water is available to them throughout the session.

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

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	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	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	3
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: Met

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