

St Anne's After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY269864

Inspection date 11 November 2005

Inspector Vivienne Rose

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Registered person London Borough of Tower Hamlets

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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St Anne's After-school club and holiday play scheme opened in 2003. It operates from two halls within the school premises in Whitechapel in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. A maximum of 80 children may attend the after-school club and a maximum of 110 may attend the holiday plays scheme at any one time.

The after school club operates each week-day from 13:30 to 18:00 term time only. The holiday play scheme operates during school holidays from 09:00 to 18:00.

All the children share access to two secure enclosed outdoor play areas.

There are currently 181 children aged from 3 to 8 years on roll at the after-school club. Children come from the main school and some attend from another local school in the area as most of theirs parents travel into work in the London area. The club currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language and a child with special educational needs.

The after-school club employs nine members of staff, six of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualification and three staff are working towards a qualification.

The after school club and play scheme have full use of the school and work in partnership with the school head teacher.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The environment is clean and tidy; however, staff give insufficient reminders for children to wash their hands before eating and drinking to help them to develop their sense of good personal hygiene.

Parents give prior written consent to administer medication that ensures children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. Most staff hold a current first aid certificate. This means that they give appropriate care if there is an accident.

Staff gather all relevant information regarding diet and medical history. This ensures that children's individual dietary needs are met. Children are provided with healthy snacks at the centre and they know that fruit is good for them however, staff do not sufficiently reinforce this policy. As a result children also bring along their own snacks which are often less healthy in their content.

Children enjoy a worthwhile range of physical activities, which help promote their good health for example, staff organise various running and catch games and playing on larger apparatus. The children play outside and extend their physical skills, on a daily basis.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Staff organise the indoor space effectively, allowing the children to move around safely, freely and independently. Children have easy and safe access to toys and resources that are stimulating and suitable for children's stage and age of development. Good routines and gentle reminders help children to learn about safety within the setting.

The security is very good ensuring that children are unable to leave the premises without a suitable adult. Good staff deployment and effective key worker system

within the club ensures the safety of children at all times. Children and staff practise the emergency evacuation procedures on regular basis, this helps children become familiar with the routines in the event of a fire.

Risk assessments are carried out in each room and outside to minimise hazards and to ensure the safety of the children. There are clear procedures for outings to ensure the children are safe. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and know how to proceed if they have concerns about a child in their care. This supports children's well-being.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children relate very well to staff and to each other. Children confidently approach staff for support indicating good trusting relationships.

Children are interested in the activities available and spend time concentrating on self-chosen activities for example, when they make friendship bracelets with beads. Children are confident, independent and have good self-esteem. They play an active part in the organisation of the centre when staff invite them to choose which toys and resources they would like for the centre from a catalogue. Children are involved in the policy making for the group which helps them to take responsibility.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff treat children as individuals and acknowledge their differences and preferences. Children enjoy respectful relationships with staff and each other. They have high levels of confidence and self-esteem. Staff are good role models helping children learn the importance of showing respect for all. They introduce topics to teach children about other cultures. Themed activities, such as identifying famous black people during Black History month help children develop a positive attitude to others.

Staff offer good support for children with special needs. This is due to the experience of staff that makes sure that all children are included.

Children's behaviour is good and they play well together. They learn to share and take turns while playing group and team games. As a result children understand the rules and boundaries when they are at the centre.

Staff give regular feedback to parents about the child's time spent at the centre. Parents are given information about the routines and activities in the centre by the use of newsletters and notice boards. The record of complaints lacks the necessary detail to ensure that they are dealt with effectively.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The rooms are very well laid out and staff show a clear understanding of their role in supporting the children's play and learning. Children are well grouped and the key worker system ensures that appropriate support and care is given throughout the session. Staff deployment is effective and ensures that children are well supervised at all times. Children receive good support from staff who know them well.

Management actively encourage staff to undertake relevant training. This helps support the children within the setting.

All documentation required for the safe and effective management of the centre is in place. This contributes to the welfare of the children. There is a written complaints procedure which is made available to parents. Staff record and address complaints when they are made however, these records lack sufficient detail. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to update the complaints procedure so that it included the details of the regulator.

This has now been addressed the setting now displays the complaints procedure and details of the regulator are stated clearly for parents to ensure the well-being of the children. However, the setting will now update their overall complaints procedure further, in the light of new guidance.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted 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 then 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 good. 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):

 ensure that children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and drinking; continue to reinforce the settings policy for children to eat healthy snacks

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk