



Catz Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY292383
Inspection date 09 January 2006
Inspector Sue Boylan

Setting Address St. Therasas R.C. Primary School, Montacute Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6RL
Telephone number 07793 802830
E-mail
Registered person Catz Clubs
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?

Cats Club, Morden was registered in 2004. The out of school care scheme operates from St. Theresa's RC Primary School in Morden, Surrey. It provides a service for the children who attend the school. It is located in single storey premises and the scheme uses a base room with storage facilities, a hall, a gym, an IT suite and toilet facilities with an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 23 children on roll for after school care and 10 children on roll for the breakfast club, aged from 4 years to under 12 years. Children attend a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with special needs. There are no children

who speak English as an additional language currently in attendance.

The breakfast club is open from 07.45 to 08.45 and the after school club is open from 15.10 to 18.00, Monday to Friday, term time.

Three members of staff work with the children. One member of staff holds an appropriate early years qualification and two staff are currently working towards a recognised play work qualification. The setting is working towards maintaining a balance of 50% qualified staff.

The setting receives support from the Local Authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is supported by staff who have a secure knowledge of good hygiene practice. Children know why they have to wash their hands before eating and after going to the toilet. There are effective procedures in place to prevent cross contamination, such as use of liquid soap, paper towel and wiping tables with anti-bacterial spray.

Children develop an understanding of healthy foods because they are offered a balanced selection of snacks after school. They are offered cereals and toast for breakfast with fruit included daily. Individual dietary requirements are taken into consideration when planning the weeks menu which contributes to children's well-being.

Children know when they are thirsty and have access to drinks at all times. They benefit from sitting together in chosen groups during meal times with their friends to socialise and chat about their day at school.

Children have a positive attitude towards exercise and enjoy daily opportunities to extend their physical skills with use of some of the school's PE equipment and games such as football and "stuck in the mud". There is an outdoor area used mostly during the lighter evenings.

Children are protected from infectious illness because staff are familiar with the club's sickness policy and children will not be admitted if unwell. The club maintains adequate records, however sometimes the accident records lack the required details. Currently one staff member is first aid trained with the others due to attend a relevant first aid course by the end of January.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in warm, safe and welcoming environment. They benefit from

being able to move around safely and independently. However the main activity room is shared with the school and sections of the work surfaces and cupboards are cluttered with creative materials and equipment. This makes the room look disorganised and children find it difficult to see which resources are available to use and staff have little space for the preparation of food and activities.

Staff remind children of the boundaries to keep them safe. For example, not playing on a wet floor, because of slipping. There are appropriate procedures in place that contribute towards the safe management of children.

Fire evacuation is practised on a regular basis so children are familiar with the procedure and will act quickly in an emergency. Daily risk assessment checks identify potential hazards and children are supervised by staff who are vigilant. Staff ensure children only have access to toys and resources that are safe and in good condition.

Generally children's welfare is adequately protected because the staff have a detailed procedure to follow if they have a concern a child is being abused or neglected. However they do not have the relevant contact details as there is no copy of the Area Child Protection Committee Guidelines.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are enthusiastic and confident within the environment. They greet new members of staff, asking their name and introducing themselves. Children enjoy the friendly atmosphere of the club and the opportunity to meet up with their friends from school to relax and play together.

Children relate well to staff who interact appropriately with them. For example, " how was school today?" and " what would you like to do now?". Staff are caring and children benefit when they sit to play chess together or a game of snap. This contributes to children's emotional well-being.

Staff plan weekly activities which includes the daily routine and children have good opportunities to choose what they want to do, for example, drawing, games and lego. However the opportunity to use their imaginations, extend small muscle control and create is limited.

Children use the school computers on alternate days where they enthusiastically use software called "school friend". This enhances learning in literacy and maths depending on individual need.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff greet children on arrival who are eager to see their friends and talk to staff about their day. They are excited and sometimes whilst waiting for the other children to come from their classes or waiting for instruction from staff the noise level

becomes high.

Staff mostly use positive strategies to manage the children's behaviour, however, at times they have to raise their voices in order to be heard which does not always engage the children's attention and provide consistency in behaviour management. Children are generally well behaved and are encouraged to share, take turns and tidy up which promotes a sense of belonging.

The club has some experience of working with children who have special needs. There is close liaison with parents which ensures individual needs are met and all children are included in the day to day routine and activities. There is limited opportunities to learn about the wider world as there are few resources which reflect positive images of today's society.

A good partnership with parents contributes considerably to children's well-being whilst at the breakfast and after school club. Parents are made to feel welcome and a regular exchange of information ensures parents are kept informed of any issues regarding their children's welfare and progress.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from staff who have a positive attitude and care about their well-being. Children are well supported within the structure of the adult/child ratio. Children are familiar with the environment, however sometimes they do not benefit from the routine after tea when staff have not organised an activity for them.

There are effective recruitment procedures in place and children will not be left alone with any staff who are not vetted. There is a comprehensive range of policies and procedures in place which guide staff in their daily practice with the children. The required records are mostly well maintained which promotes children's health, safety and well-being.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection an action was made to ensure correct procedures were followed to keep Ofsted informed of changes to the person in charge and ensure all members of staff are suitable and qualified to work with children. Improvement has been made because a new qualified Play Leader has been appointed, Ofsted were informed and the required checks completed. Two further members of staff are currently undertaking appropriate play worker qualifications, one is due to complete soon, both are suitably vetted. The organisation is meeting the statutory requirements.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report 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 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):

- ensure the accident records contain all the required information
- provide opportunities for children to experience a stimulating range of creative, imaginative and manipulative activities
- obtain a copy of the Area Child Protection Committee Guidelines (ACPC)
- consider other methods of managing children's behaviour during some times of the session (arrival time and after tea)
- ensure children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice

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