



## **MJS Simply-Play Ltd**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY306221
<b>Inspection date</b>	23 March 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Debra Davey

<b>Setting Address</b>	Thorntree School, Pound Park Road, London, SE7 8AE
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<b>Registered person</b>	MJS Simply-Play Ltd.
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Thorntree After School Club has been operating since 2005. The club is provided by MSJ Simply- Play LTD. Children are accommodated in one room in the Thorntree Primary School building, with access to toilet facilities on the ground level. The club also have use of the outdoor play grounds.

A maximum of 26 children aged 4 to 8 years may attend the after school club at any one time; children aged 8 years and over are also accommodated. The club is open each weekday from 07:30 to 09:00 and 15:30 to 18:00, during term time and 08:30 to 17:30 when it operates during the school holidays.

There are currently 19 children on roll. All children attend the Thorntree School. The setting supports children with special educational needs, and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

There are 4 full-time staff working with the children in the after school Club. They have play work qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children learn about health and nutrition through projects in the after school club. For example, there are displays about food that keeps us healthy and weekly cooking sessions. Children are enthusiastic at snack times because they are given a range of choices and opportunities to discuss the food on offer. For example, when avocado pear is given as an optional filling for bagels; children who have tried it before describe to others what it is like. In this way, children are helping each other make healthy choices and widen their experience of different foods. They learn good hygiene practice when washing their hands at appropriate times and clear explanations are given as to why, for example, we don't put our elbows on the table.

There are measures in place to ensure that children are kept healthy in the club, for example, staff are trained in food hygiene and first aid. There are good systems to ensure that children are kept safe from cross infection, such as regular cleaning of tables and equipment, as well as a sickness policy to exclude children who are ill.

Every day, children have the opportunity to play outside in the school playground. They enjoy a variety of games and sports such as, tennis and skipping which helps them to learn about balance and co-ordination. They become increasingly aware of what happens to our bodies when we are active, due to freely chosen outdoor activity, and are happy to involve staff in their games, for example, when playing football.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children are kept safe in the after school club through good procedures. For example, the gate to the playground is kept locked and the club have their own door bell on the gate. Staff then check who has arrived before opening the gate. This procedure is further strengthened by a clear collections policy which states that parents must confirm in advance who will collect their child.

Children benefit from a range of stimulating, safe equipment that they are able to access easily. Children help to set out the activities and learn to be aware of their own safety. For example, they know there are rules, such as not to run in the hall. Equipment is checked regularly by staff to ensure that it conforms to safety standards.

Staff have good understanding of issues relating to child protection and know what to do if they suspect a child is at risk. This ensures that children are kept safe from harm or abuse, although the policy does not include dealing with allegations against staff. Child protection procedures are shared with parents through the clubs policies and procedures handbook.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children are able to freely select from a good range of games, books or ball games in the after school club. In addition, there is a programme of weekly planned topics, such as cooking or art, ensuring a good balance of adult or child led activity. This helps children to develop independence, learn to work with one another and have shared responsibility for the group.

Children relate very well to the staff and they confidently approach staff for help or conversation. Relationships between the children are also positive, as they enjoy relaxing with their friends at the end of the school day. As a result children enjoy attending the club, where good trusting relationships are formed.

Children enjoy team games such as football or hockey which promotes their physical development and fosters skills of co-operation. Some children choose to spend their time more quietly, reading or doing homework and the organisation of the session allows this.

Children's views are sought about what they enjoy doing and adults record their ideas on evaluation forms. The information is used well to inform the planning of activities for the following term.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children and staff get to know each other well and useful information is obtained from parents, to enable staff to provide for children's individual needs. Children benefit from a range of equipment that reflects positive cultural identity in books and puzzles. Activities reflect a range of cultural backgrounds to help children learn about the wider world. This includes festival related topics such as Chinese New Year.

Many of the children attending the club also join in the holiday play scheme; this includes a range of planned activities and visits to the local area, such as to the Greenwich Maritime museum.

Children respond well to the sensitive support of staff and their behaviour is good. Staff provide a positive role model for the children, explaining rules to them when needed, and adapting activities to cater for the different ages of children attending. Older children are given the opportunity to organise some activities and relay information to staff. This helps them to take responsibility for the group and develop their self esteem.

Good relationships with parents are fostered and they are encouraged to become involved with the club activities. There is a detailed and useful parent information board, clearly displayed, and a newsletter ensures that parents are well informed about activities.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children's care is enhanced by efficient and effective organisation. Staff undergo appropriate checks before starting work at the club and there is a clear induction process to ensure that they are aware of policies and procedures. Leadership is very good, which encourages staff to work well as a team and provide a stimulating and challenging environment for the children.

Organisation is supported by clear and detailed documentation, clearly collated in the club handbook. The information covers all current legislation such as employment, health and safety and equalities issues. This helps to ensure that the after school club is able to meet the requirements of the National Standards for Out of School care.

Overall, 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 to Ofsted.

There are no complaints to report.

## **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.
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<b>WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?</b>
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### **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):

- Update child protection policy to include dealing with allegations against staff.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)