



## The Haven

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY305522
<b>Inspection date</b>	05 December 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Lesley Barrett
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<b>Registered person</b>	Julie Ann Richards
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day 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](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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Haven Out of School club opened under the current ownership in 2005. It operates from a mobile classroom situated within the grounds of Stilton Primary School. The club also have the use of the school playgrounds.

A maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. Care is offered after school and during the holidays for children up to 11 years old. There are currently 33 children on roll. The club is able to support children with special educational needs.

Currently there are 5 members of staff, including the owner working with the children, of whom over half are qualified or working towards a recognised qualification. The setting receives support from their local childcare partnership.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health and well being is protected by staff's knowledge of first aid procedures, which ensures that they are able to treat a child's minor first aid requirements. They have a clear understanding of the need to record accidents and ensure that parents are made aware that their child has sustained an injury. However, parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment is not consistently maintained, which fails to protect children in the event of a serious injury.

Children's needs for regular drinks are effectively met, as they are able to help themselves as and when required. Snacks are provided for them after school which provide occasional healthy options. The premises are clean and well maintained, although children are not always reminded of the importance of hand washing, before snacks or after visiting the toilet. Consequently, good personal hygiene routines to prevent the spread of infection are not always promoted.

Children's needs to release energy after a day at school are met, as staff provide them with the opportunity to participate in physical play on a daily basis. They enjoy playing in the school play ground adjacent to the classroom, where team games are encouraged helping to develop children's social skills.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The risks to children are minimised by the organisation of the play space available. Areas within the club are used appropriately, quieter activities are arranged inside and more physical activities are encouraged in the outdoor play area, allowing children to play safely and free from harm. Children are learning about keeping themselves safe, as staff remind them not to walk around holding scissors or to tip back on their chair. Fire drills are practised, to help children become familiar with the routines to be followed in the event of an emergency.

Children are able to access resources which are effectively stored and labelled, allowing them to make informed decisions about the types of activities they would like to play with. Staff regularly monitor the safety of the equipment to ensure that is suitable for children to use.

Staff working with the children have an understanding of the importance of child protection procedures. They are aware of whom they should contact should they have any concerns, helping them to keep children safe. However, the child protection policy does not include the procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation

being made against a member of staff. This does not fully safe guard children.

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

The provision is good.

A welcoming and stimulating environment is provided for children as they arrive at the club. A relaxed unstructured atmosphere enables them to unwind after a day at school. They arrive confidently, showing that they are settled and familiar with their routine. They place their coats and bags in the allocated place and help themselves to snack, chatting with their peers and staff about their day at school.

Children are stimulated and interested in the activities available and receive good support from staff who show interest in their play, helping children to feel valued. A vast range of craft materials are provided and children are engrossed in the activities available. For example, they enjoy making advent calendars and decorating Christmas lamp shades. These activities are ongoing and are displayed effectively within the setting, allowing children to experience a sense of achievement.

Children's preferences to activities offered within the club are sought through questionnaires. They are asked about their favourite and least favourite activities. Where possible the staff try to make changes incorporating the children's responses to ensure that their continuing needs are met.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are welcomed into the group. Positive images on display help children to feel included. They are provided with opportunities to make flags from different countries and celebrate festivals, such as, Christmas, Divali and Chinese New Year. This helps them to learn about cultures and traditions. Children with individual needs are supported by staff and able to participate in all activities on offer.

Children behave well as staff are calm and explain why they are asking a child not to do something. They redirect children's attentions into appropriate activities, to prevent their behaviour becoming unacceptable. This helps to reduce negative messages and allows children to learn about acceptable boundaries. The club rules are on display and children have an understanding of what they can and can't do. Staff make effective use of praise and encouragement to promote children's self-esteem.

Relationships with parents are friendly. Staff share information verbally on a daily basis, to ensure that parents are kept informed about their child's day. They are provided with a parents pack when they enrol their child at the club. This ensures that they are aware of the club rules, current policies and procedures and the care provided for their children.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is inadequate.

Staff are suitably qualified or working towards a recognised qualification to ensure that have adequate knowledge for their role. The organisation of the premises is effective and helps to meet the needs of the children.

However, the general management of the club is currently ineffective. All necessary paperwork is not kept on the premises. There is a limited understanding of the required documentation, policies and procedures to fully support the care of children and ensure that parents have signed all necessary consents. Arrangements currently in place, such as, the snack menu and personal hygiene routines are not effectively monitored and reviewed, to ensure that they promote good practice for children. Consequently, this compromises children's welfare.

Overall, the range of children's needs are not met.

## **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.

Ofsted has received one complaint about the way in which a staff member handled the behaviour of two children who were fighting. This relates to National Standards 1 (Suitable person), 3 (Care, learning and play) and 11 (Behaviour). It was investigated during the inspection on 05/12/2005 and as a result subsequent action was taken which enables the provider to remain qualified for registration.

## **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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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## **WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?**

### **The quality and standards of the care**

To improve the quality and standards of care, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- develop knowledge and understanding of the required documentation to ensure that all regulations are met and make the required documentation readily available for inspection at all times.

These actions are set out in a ***notice of action to improve*** and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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)