



Busy Kids after School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY225456
Inspection date	13 September 2005
Inspector	Sheena Bankier
Setting Address	The Annex, St George's Hall, Andover Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 6NU
Telephone number	07795 633443
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Registered person	Busy Kids After School Club
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?

Busy Kids After School Club has been registered since 2000. It is managed by a voluntary management committee, made up of parents of the children at the club. It operates from 2 separate buildings on the site of St. George's Church. The main area used is St. George's Hall and the second area is the church annex. A maximum of 24 children under 8 may attend the club at any one-time.

There are currently 42 children aged from 4 to 11 years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The club is mainly used by the children who attend the nearby Falkland Primary School. The setting currently has a number of children attending

with special needs and there are no children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens 5 days a week, generally during term time only. Although they do on occasions open to cover teacher training days. Sessions are Monday to Friday 15:15 to 18:00 and occasional inset days are from 09:00 to 18:00.

There are 2 full-time and 2 part-time staff currently work with the children. The supervisor holds a recognised qualification. None of the other staff hold recognised qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy good opportunities to be physically active. They have a large area to play together indoors with sports equipment. In the summer months the children also regularly use the school's outdoor area, where they play team games.

Children benefit from the clean and hygienic environment. They understand the hygiene routines, for example washing their hands before snack and staff are vigilant about maintaining these. Two of the staff hold current first aid certificates, which enables them to attend to minor accidents appropriately. There are clear policies in place for sickness, which parents are made aware of. This protects children's good health.

Children increase their understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle as they freely access drinks and make independent choices from a good range of healthy based snacks. Children have opportunities to develop their social skills as they choose where to sit at the tables set out for snack time.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Potential hazards to children at the premises are minimised with a daily risk assessment. Staff supervise children closely and there are appropriate boundaries established, such as not leaving the main hall without first speaking to staff. However, the staff are not always aware of the possible dangers to children. For example, when children are not wearing their shoes and are running around in socks on the wooden floor.

Children use equipment and toys that are in good condition and are able to make choices from the resources set out. They are unable to self-select items due to the storage facilities and have little opportunity to request items. This limits the decisions the children can make about what they want to play with.

Staff overall have good knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures.

There are 2 staff members who have undertaken training. This helps to safeguard children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle well at the club. They enter confidently and understand the established routines well. There are good relationships between the children and with the staff. Children enjoy each other's company and having fun together.

Children enjoy a good range of activities that the club offers. For example, gluing and sticking, junk modelling, drawing and chalking, which promotes creativity. The activities and resources on offer are suitable for the age and development of the children who attend.

Children can choose whether to be active or quiet throughout the session. There is a comfortable quiet area with beanbags, where children can relax, read or play games.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have a sense of belonging to the club. They and the staff discuss and decide on the behaviour codes together. They begin to develop responsibility, by helping tidy up. However, staff do not promote the care of the younger children by the older children. For example, they do not encourage them to sit together at snack time or encourage them to play together. Children's behaviour is good overall and staff manage behaviour consistently and provide the children with a positive role model. At times though, they are slow to react to very boisterous behaviour that may pose a risk to others.

Children learn about diversity and others by celebrating festival and religious dates, such as taking part in a range of activities for Chinese New Year. Children also have access to some resources, which reflect positive images.

Children with additional needs are included well. They participate fully in the club activities, with support from the staff. The staff ensure they are up-to-date with their individual needs through regular communication with their parents and others involved in their care.

The toys and activities out are available to all the children. However, boys and girls are at times dominating different activities and equipment.

There are good relationships established with parents. Regular newsletters keep them up-to-date with any changes. They receive a copy of the policies and procedures, which ensures that they are clear about the service available.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The organisation meets the needs of the children for whom it provides.

The premises are well organised. The space is generally laid out to maximise play opportunities for the children. There is a good induction for new staff to ensure they are understand their roles and responsibilities to the children. The clear policies and procedures are in line with the national standards.

An action plan is in place to meet the required 50% ratio of qualified staff, but this requires updating. The club has no named deputy to take responsibility for the running of the club in the absence of the playleader.

Improvements since the last inspection

The setting has been unable to increase the ratio of qualified staff to the required 50%. Children have access to more resources which reflect positive images of society which helps them to learn and understand about diversity. However, the resources are still limited.

Complaints since the last inspection

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 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):

- update and continue to develop and closely monitor the action plan; to achieve the required 50% qualified staff ratio
- continue to develop and increase resources which reflect positive images of the wider society
- ensure there is a named deputy for the club

- promote the care of the younger children by the older children
- ensure staff respond to behaviour or actions that may put children or others at risk of injury.

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