



## **Kidz Choice**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY264830
<b>Inspection date</b>	29 November 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Jennifer Liverpool
<b>Setting Address</b>	Queenswell School, Sweets Way, London, N20 0NQ
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<b>Registered person</b>	Kidz Choice
<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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Kidz Choice after school club is one of five out of school provision run by the same owner. It opened in 2003 and operates from two dining rooms of Queenswell infant school in Whetstone within the London borough of Barnet. The immediate area is largely residential, with local shops and a park nearby. A maximum of 80 children may attend the out of school provision at any one time. The setting is open each week day. Sessions are from 07:45 to 09:00 and again at 15:00 to 18:00 term time only. During the school holidays the setting is open between the hours of 09:00 and 18:00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 94 children aged 4 to 7 years on roll. Children from the age of 4 years to 11 years of age attend the club for a variety of sessions. The provision serves families whose children attend the school as well as members of the neighbouring community

The out of school provision employs six to seven staff. There are currently four members of staff, including the manager who hold appropriate early years qualifications, a further three are working towards a qualification. The setting receives support from the Local Authority, and 4 Children (previously known as Kids Club Network).

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children receive a good range of healthy breakfast and snacks including cereals, bread and fresh fruit which helps them to develop healthy eating practices. They enjoy varied and nutritious meals which meets with their dietary needs. Fresh drinking water is only available at snack time, and children are given a choice of drinks, including milk and fruit juice. Although fresh drinking water is offered at snack time, it is not always easily available to them in order that they help themselves when they need to throughout the session. Older children automatically wash their hands before meals and younger children are given a gentle reminder. There are generally good procedures in place to prevent the spread of infection, such as staff wearing gloves when preparing snacks and monitoring children hand washing. However, the current practice for disposing of soiled materials needs to be reviewed.

Children enjoy many opportunities to take part in physical play, both indoors and outdoors. They play active and competitive team games such as football and basket ball. Children use a range of equipment such as hoops, skipping ropes, hockey sticks and soft balls. This helps extend their physical skills and contributes to a healthy lifestyle.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are kept reasonably safe because staff have a satisfactory understanding of safety issues and take steps to minimise potential hazards. For example ensuring that electrical power points are covered and electrical cables are inaccessible to children so that they have the freedom to move around without tripping over. There are basic risk assessments procedures in place. However, there is little confirmation that such practice is carried out on a regular basis and that outdoor play equipment are checked to ensure its stable and safe for children to use. Not all children have a good understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a fire because these are not regularly practised. The premises are very secure and there are good procedures in place to prevent unwanted visitors gaining access.

Children use a wide range of good quality toys and resources that are stimulating and suitable for their age and abilities. Staff organise the indoor space effectively, allowing children to move around freely and independently. Staff are aware of the child protection policies and understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns. This supports children's welfare.

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

The provision is good.

Children are happy and content in the setting because the staff values their individuality and build trusting relationship with them and their parents. Children eagerly help themselves to a wide range of activities set out for them on a daily basis. They enjoy a good range of activities that are stimulating and well balanced for all ages. Resources and activities such as play stations, snooker and sports games are regular features in the setting and appeals to children's interests. Children engage in a good range of arts and crafts activities that helps them to express themselves creatively through drawing, and making collage that represent their experiences. Children relate very well to staff, and they are forming firm friendships with their peers.

Children who attend the breakfast club are offered a range of quiet activities, and they are encouraged to make choices for themselves. Written plans for children attending the holiday play scheme show that they are offered a structured routine that consists of free play and adult led activities, and they benefit from regular visits to the local community. This helps children to become familiar with the common features of their local environment.

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

The provision is good.

Children have good relationships with the staff, and they enjoy each others company as they happily talk about their home life and things that are important to them. Their self esteem and sense of belonging is encouraged because staff show interests in what they do and interact well with them. There is a range of resources that provide children with a positive outlook of the community and the wider world. Staff treat children as individuals and recognise their differences and preferences. Older children demonstrate important skills such as sharing, taking turns and listening to each other. All children behave well and benefit from the consistent praise and encouragement.

The partnership with parents is good. Parents provide appropriate and relevant information about their children to the staff. This helps to ensure children receive individual care and attention. Parents are kept informed about what their children eat for breakfast and snacks on a daily basis, and the activities that are on offer to them throughout the week. The sharing of information keep parents fully informed about their children's daily life at the setting.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from working and playing in a room that is well laid out. Staff show a clear understanding of their role in supporting children in their play and learning through attending regular staff meetings to plan the curriculum for the after school club and holiday play scheme. Children are relaxed and contented because the staff create a warm and friendly atmosphere and organise their time well. There are suitable contingency plans in place to cover for absences to ensure children always have appropriate supervision.

The management regularly visit the setting and offer staff good support and actively encourage them to undertake relevant training. There are satisfactory recruitment procedures in place. Most relevant records are available and reasonably maintained. Written policies and procedures guide staff in their daily practice. However, a few policies are not yet in line with current legislation and the written procedures for confidentiality is not always followed by staff as the accident book for children is not kept securely. The setting aims to participate in a quality assurance scheme, and are at present developing systems to improve the quality of care for children.

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

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, the setting was required to review the nutritional quality of the food provided. Children receive a range of healthy snacks on a daily basis. They enjoy varied and nutritious food that meets with dietary needs and preferences.

## **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 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):

- improve health and hygiene procedures by ensuring that children have safe access to dispose soiled tissues and paper towels
- improve risk assessment record to include clearer details on methods used to minimise potential hazards. Carry out regular fire drills to help children become familiar with emergency evacuation
- update complaints procedure to reflect new regulations. Review late collection policy and ensure all staff comply to confidentiality procedures.

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