



## **Stuart Road Out of School Club**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY262217
<b>Inspection date</b>	07 June 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Glynis Pratchett

<b>Setting Address</b>	Palmerston Street, Plymouth, Devon, PL1 5LL
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<b>Telephone number</b>	07745 808123
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**E-mail**

<b>Registered person</b>	Stuart Road Out of School Club
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<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
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<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care
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## 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?

Stuart Road Out of School Club opened in 2003. It is based at Stuart Road Primary School in the Stoke area of Plymouth. The club has use of the school dining room, a large hall, foundation class, nursery room, two playgrounds, a kitchen and toilets with washing facilities. A committee of parents and school representatives manages the club. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. In term-time the club is open Monday to Friday from 07:45 to 08:45 for breakfast before school, and from 15:15 to 18:00 after school. During school holidays the setting is open Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 18:00.

There are currently 200 children aged from 4 to 8 years on roll. Children attend from the primary school and the surrounding area. The club is able to support children with special needs and those where English is an additional language.

The club employs five members of staff. All the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities that contribute to their good health. They have regular outdoor play and lots of fresh air, taking part in activities that develop their physical skills, such as playing with bats and balls, football and playing with oversize jacks. They make good use of the well-designed, outside play area and engage in creative activities that benefit from a large outdoor space, for example, using chalk to draw round each other. Children are aware of the need to remain cool in the sun, they independently remove their sweatshirts.

The children are cared for in a warm and clean environment. They learn the importance of good hygiene routines, take themselves to the toilet independently and are encouraged to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. Their health needs are well met as staff systematically record accidents and ensure that all the necessary documentation is in place, including a policy about sick children.

Children have regular nutritious snacks that are served in substantial quantities. These include toast with various spreads and a choice of water or squash to drink. Children can regularly access drinks from the serving hatch. The children's dietary needs are well met and catered for as the staff are well aware of any allergies or special requirements.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in the school premises which are spacious and well maintained. The large, teaching spaces are used flexibly for different activities, for example the hall is used for physical play in bad weather, or an area of the dining hall is arranged to provide a quiet space for reading. Children have access to a good range of equipment that is in good condition. Resources are well organised and children can safely access these for themselves and they also help to tidy them away. Children's safety is promoted by staff who are aware of their responsibilities to carry out regular fire drills and some staff have an up to date first aid qualification.

Children are protected because staff have a clear understanding of what they do if they have any concerns about a child and are clear about the child protection procedures. However, policies need updating so that staff are fully aware of procedures and children are further protected. Children are kept safe when they are

collected from the classrooms and when they depart. Sound procedures and robust security precautions, such as the intercom system ensure children's safety at all times.

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time in the club. They are cheerful and confident, participating enthusiastically in activities such as making a paper bird and tennis. They receive good support from staff who are skilled at knowing when to provide support and when to withdraw. Staff listen to children's requests for extra resources and talk with them about what they are doing. Children feel valued and successful in their activities. Children independently choose what to play with and they seamlessly move from activity to activity playing with different children as they move around the setting.

The planning of activities takes account of the age and ability of the children. Staff are fluid in their planning ensuring activities allow children to make choices about what they do. Children take part in a variety of role-play and creative activities that encourage them to use their imagination, for example, they act out a fantasy, dog role-play while playing outside in the playground. The good balance of activities ensure children are fully occupied and interested in their play.

Children play very well together, with older children supporting the younger ones. They patiently wait to use the play station and ask to join in adult-led activities. Staff actively promote co-operation as they encourage children to learn right from wrong.

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

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed and play a full part in the club. Children behave very well, they know the club rules and staff effectively intervene when necessary. Staff are relaxed and use lots of praise and encouragement to promote positive behaviour. Children are encouraged to share and take turns, for example, when waiting for a space on the craft table. They respect the needs of others and play well together.

Children have access to a range of resources that promote their understanding of diversity, however, toys that promote positive images of disability are limited. They have equal access to all activities. Children with special needs are fully supported in the holiday play scheme, some children receive funded one-to-one support. All children are fully included in the play scheme.

There is a good partnership with parents who are very happy with the club. Parents receive a handbook containing information about the club when their child first starts. There is a two-way sharing of information when children are collected or dropped off. This process ensures children's care and welfare needs are well supported.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The premises are well organised. Children use the school facilities and benefit from the large indoor and outdoor spaces that maximise their play opportunities.

There are good staffing levels and staff work well together ensuring children are well supported. During the holiday play scheme, more staff work alongside the children. All staff are appropriately qualified and there is an effective induction pack for new staff. Staff are clear about health and safety issues which positively impact on the care of the children. Effective contingency arrangements ensure staffing ratios are consistently well met.

The club is run by a committee, who have experienced difficulties in informing Ofsted of recent staff changes. The procedures for ensuring this process is successful, are not sufficiently robust. This has a negative impact on the quality of care offered to children. The acting manager is keen to streamline and update the paperwork and policies, and this process is currently under review. All the documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place. However, there are outstanding policy recommendations from the previous inspection that need addressing, so that the paperwork is updated and meets requirements. The satisfactory quality of the provision ensures that it meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

The previous care inspection recommended that the setting includes a policy statement about the procedures to be followed in the event of a child being lost and any allegations of abuse being made against a member of staff or volunteer; develops a key worker system and ensures the documentation and records comply with Ofsted's requirements.

The acting manager has devised a way of implementing the key worker system, however, this has not been actioned yet. Some records are kept on the premises and staff are aware of the need to maintain documentation for the requisite period. All the other recommendations have not been completed.

These changes would further improve children's care and welfare if implemented and have been recommended for improvement at this inspection.

## **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):

- ensure procedures for informing Ofsted of any staff changes are robust.
- ensure all policies are up to date and include all the relevant information.
- provide resources that promote positive images of disability.

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)