



Kingy's After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	318139
Inspection date	04 May 2006
Inspector	Sheila Iwaskow
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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 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?

Kingy's out of school club has been registered since 1998. It operates from two play rooms in a purpose built unit in Sale, Cheshire. Outdoor play facilities are available. The facility serves the surrounding area and children are taken and collected from a local primary school.

There are currently 52 children on roll, aged from 4 to 11 years who attend a variety of sessions. The setting supports children with a special need. The club is open from Monday to Friday term-time only from 08:00 to 09:00 and from 15:15 to 18:00 hours.

There are six members of staff who work with the children. Half of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3 and NNEB. The setting is a member of the Kids Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Outdoor play opportunities enable every child to take part in regular physical exercise. Children play together in ball games and climbing activities where they explore and develop balance and coordination skills. They have fun as they run around in the fresh air and daily walks from school to the club contribute towards their appreciation of a healthy lifestyle.

Effective procedures are followed by staff to protect children from illness and infection. They follow current and appropriate health and hygiene guidelines. The premises are cleaned at the end of each session and staff ensure that surfaces are wiped down after snack time and messy play. Minor injuries are dealt with appropriately as a number of staff hold first aid certificates and a first aid box is in place. If children become unwell whilst at the club they are comforted and their parents are contacted straight away. Children's health is further promoted as staff raise their awareness of the need to wear sun cream on hot sunny days.

Children are well hydrated and have regular access to drinks. Snacks provided are well balanced and nutritious. Children enjoy choosing from healthy options, such as fruit, toast and crackers. Snack times are relaxed social occasions where children sit together and enjoy each others company. Attractive plates and table cloths are provided to make eating a pleasurable experience for the children.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a bright and stimulating environment where they have ample space to move around freely and play in comfort. Examples of children's art work are attractively displayed giving young children a sense of belonging within the setting. Rest areas with comfortable furniture are available if children simply want to relax or do their homework. Staff ensure that a range of activities are set out before children arrive, enabling children to have fun as soon as they enter the club. Children access a wide range of resources which are safe, in good condition and meet the needs of all the children who attend. Play materials are easily accessible, giving children the freedom of choice.

Risk of accidental injury to children is minimised by the good supervision of staff who are vigilant as they watch and interact with children as they play. Clear procedures are in place for the safe collection of children and a buzzer system at the entrance gate effectively manages access to the setting. Daily risk assessments of the premises and smoke detectors contribute towards keeping children safe. Fire drills

are practiced on a regular basis, helping children to understand procedures to follow in the event of a fire or emergency evacuation. However, a safety issue which compromises children safety has been identified; a large patch of ivy, which is at child height, is accessible to children in the outdoor play area.

A written child protection policy, to safeguard children's welfare is in place. However, it does not meet the criteria laid down by the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Staff have a sound understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse, however some are insecure in their knowledge of procedures to be followed if neglect is suspected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, confident and enjoy being together in the relaxed and friendly environment. They talk positively about the club and enjoy attending. Most children know each other well and clearly get pleasure from unwinding together after a day at school. They share warm, close relationships with staff and freely talk to visitors. Children are secure in the routines of the club. Coats are hung up on pegs, bags and lunch boxes put away and children happily sit together while the register is taken. Such routines encourage tidiness and a respect for the environment in which they play.

Children engage in a range of exciting activities which they clearly enjoy. Individual preferences are recognised and acknowledged as some children choose to rest whilst others play after a busy day at school. Computer activities provide chances for children to explore new challenges and practice their technology skills. Creative opportunities allow children to develop their imaginative skills as they made flowers from tissue paper and paper hats using scissors and sellotape. Dressing up clothes give children the chance to initiate their own ideas in pretend situations. A range of team games both indoors and outdoors, such as football and snooker allow children to work together, learning to follow defined rules. A good range of books are attractively displayed for those children who want to sit and read for pleasure.

Staff deploy themselves effectively to enable them to offer good care and support for the children. They interact well with the children, taking an interest in what they do and say.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are very well behaved, polite and friendly to each other. Club rules are displayed for both indoor and outdoor play which set out staff's expectations of the children. Staff set themselves as positive role models and treat each child with individual care and respect. Children efforts are praised and their contributions valued, which helps to make children feel good about themselves.

Celebrations of cultural festivals, such as Chinese New year, tasting food from other countries and accessing a satisfactory range of resources allow children to appreciate the diverse society in which they live. All children are treated with equal concern and their individuality is valued. The setting demonstrates a positive attitude to children with special needs, understanding that they should be welcomed into sharing and inclusive environment. Children are developing a caring attitude towards other living creatures as they talk sadly about the rabbit that has gone missing from the hutch in the outdoor play area and speculate what might have happened to it.

Parents are warmly greeted by staff and welcomed into the setting. An information booklet informs them of most policies and procedures that operate within the club. Verbal feedback at the end of the day keeps parents up to date with their activities and any issues that have arisen at school. Overall parents expressed their satisfaction with the service provided. They appreciate the flexibility offered by the club and the caring staff.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children are cared for by staff who are consistent, suitably qualified and work well as a team. A named deputy is in place to take part in the absence of the manager, ensuring continuity of care. Space is well organised to provide children with a good range of experience and children move around their immediate environment with ease and confidence.

However, procedures to select staff and monitor their continuing suitability are weak. Furthermore, staff files indicate that recent members of staff have not been vetted. Some records relating to the children are correctly maintained, however, there are significant weaknesses: records of medication given to children are not kept, a complaints log in line with recent changes to legislation is not in place, a visitor's book is not currently being maintained and there is no evidence of valid public liability insurance.

Overall the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to address some issues relating to planning, safety and documentation. Progress in most of these areas has been made. Written systems are in place to plan a suitable range of age-related activities to meet the needs of the children who attend. A sick child policy is now in place and made available to parents. The rabbit is kept in a hutch which is free from sharp edges. Most aspects of documentation are organised for easy access and respect confidentiality. Issues regarding child protection remain outstanding and are highlighted at this inspection.

Improvements made to date ensure that children are cared for in a safer

environment, have access to an appropriate range of planned activities that and most aspects of documentation relating to their care are in place.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report since the last inspection. The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made to parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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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:

- Ensure that there are effective procedures in place for checking that staff are suitable to work with children
- Keep a record of complaints relating to the National Standards and any action taken
- Ensure that all records and policies relating to day care activities are readily accessible, up to date and 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