



Beekeepers Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	321539
Inspection date	01 June 2006
Inspector	Lindsay Helen Dobson
Setting Address	Beekeepers Club, The Scout Hut, School Lane, Fulford, York, YO10 4LU
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Registered person	The Beekeepers 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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Beekeepers Club was first registered in 1999. It operates from a building owned by the local Scout group situated close to St Oswald Primary School near to the city centre. Both kitchen and toilet facilities are located within the building and the group has access to a fully enclosed outdoor area.

The club operates an after school club during term time and a holiday club during school holidays. There are approximately 38 children on roll. The after school sessions operate from 15.00 to 18.00, Monday to Friday and offers care for a maximum of 24 children aged between four and twelve years. Children attend a

variety of sessions each week.

The holiday club operates from 08.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday all year round except for the last two weeks in August. Children attending a full day session take a packed lunch.

There are six members of staff employed to work with the children including the manager. The manager has a recognised childcare qualification and has completed play work training. Of the remaining five staff one holds a level 2 in play work.

The club are members of the Kids Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children stay healthy because practitioners follow current and mostly appropriate environmental health and hygiene guidelines, policies and procedures. For example, staff follow appropriate procedures such as wiping tables before and after meals. There is a qualified First aid person on duty at all times, written permission from parents is obtained to seek emergency advice and treatment, and the first-aid kit is appropriately stocked and stored. The setting has a suitable sickness policy in place. Children who have infectious conditions are excluded for recommended periods and parents are contacted if their children become ill whilst in the setting, which helps to prevent the spread of infection.

The children are developing an awareness and understanding of simple good health and hygiene practice. Some children are familiar with everyday good practice such as washing their hands before eating food and after outdoor play and most children know why they need to do this. However, staff do not encourage or request children to wash their hands before they have a snack to reinforce the need for good personal hygiene. Children are developing an understanding of healthy living and eating. Older children know why foods such as fruit are important, and younger children are developing a satisfactory understanding through staff talking to them about the reasons why it is healthy.

Children have satisfactory opportunities to enjoy and develop their physical skills. They have access to an enclosed outdoor play area and are on occasion asked by staff if they would like to play outside in good weather. There are organised outings during the play scheme to parks and playgrounds further a field.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to sufficient safe space to allow them to enjoy a variety of activities as the main room is large enough to give scope for free movement. The smaller room has soft furnishings with computer and television available. They use a

range of resources which are accessible and promotes children's independence and choice. The setting has security precautions in place, for example, the doors are locked and visitors must ring the doorbell and there is a closed circuit television camera on the main entrance. Outdoor play space is adequate and is easily accessed from the premises. However, overall maintenance of the premises is poor and suitable standards of cleanliness are not met in the kitchen and toilet areas, which increases the risk to children of infection.

Children's risk of accidental injury is minimised as staff conduct daily risk assessments to reduce potential hazards. Staff have a good awareness of security to maintain the safety of children. They are supervised at all times and there is a written procedure to follow in the event of a child being lost or not collected. They have clear procedures in place to escort children safely to and from school. For example, children must walk in a crocodile line guided by staff with children wearing fluorescent tabards.

Staff recognise the protection of children is their first priority and they have a clear understanding of child protection procedures. For example, they are aware of possible signs and symptoms of children at risk. Staff maintain regular, informal communication with parents, which develops partnerships between all those involved in keeping children safe.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Good quality adult interaction and support is in place, which helps children to develop skills and enjoy their learning. Staff have a good understanding of how children learn, they listen to them, and encourage discussion about choosing activities. For example, staff help children to discuss and decide on a new display for the wall and through negotiation the children decide to create a Chicken Little scene.

Although play plans are basic, staff provide a good range of activities that are suitable for the ages and abilities of the children that attend. Children are given the freedom to make their own choices and decisions about what they want to do from a selection of structured and free play activities and resources, which are rotated to stimulate interest. As a result they are confident in choosing and very quick to settle when they arrive.

There are very positive and friendly relationships between staff and children. Older children are self assured and confident in expressing views and feelings and engage in friendly conversations with the staff. For example, they inform staff and visitors about recent events and experiences.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Relationships with parents are professional and friendly. They are made welcome

and suitable information is collected and shared regularly with them to ensure consistency and clarity in the children's care. However, the new complaints recording system required under new regulations is not yet in place. Staff work effectively with parents ensuring individual needs are successfully met.

There are opportunities for children to learn about the diversity of the wider world. Children have access to a small range of resources that promote awareness of cultures, religions and disabilities. For example, there are some books and dolls that reflect and promote positive images.

Children are fully involved and encouraged to take on ownership of the club where possible. For example, they are invited to make suggestions regarding activities, they are able to advise staff of their likes and dislikes, and are involved in devising the general rules regarding safety and behaviour expectations of the setting. This ensures familiarity and encourages them to be responsible for their actions. Staff have effective behaviour management strategies in place for both appropriate and inappropriate behaviour. For example, they calmly and sensitively revisit boundaries and rules on a one-to-one basis and they encourage positive behaviour through consistent praise. As a result, children are well behaved and developing a good understanding of right and wrong.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Most policies and procedures are clear and work in practice to promote children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. However, the staff register and the visitors book are not up to date or effective.

Staff work well as a team. They deploy themselves well, covering all areas of the setting both inside and outside. They use their time appropriately, working with the children directly and the space and resources available are suitably organised. As a result children settle very quickly, are confident, independent and demonstrate a good sense of belonging. For example, they know where equipment is stored and access this confidently and independently.

Staff show a good regard to improving the service they provide. Parents' and children's thoughts and feelings regarding the setting are collected, evaluated and acted upon, and some staff are active in developing their knowledge and improving practice through accessing and implementing knowledge gained through external training opportunities. For example, in addition to attending qualification training they have completed a behaviour management course.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the group were required to devise and implement a special needs statement, develop the child protection policy and increase the availability of

resources which promote equality of opportunity. Both the special needs statement and the child protection policy have been developed and implemented and are used as a working document. Resources reflecting diversity and equality of opportunity are available throughout the setting and continue to be developed. This ensures children are kept safe, cared for appropriately and learn about diversity in the wider world.

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, since the last inspection relating to National Standard 6 safety. The complaint related to staff supervision of children whilst on outdoor equipment. Ofsted asked the provider to carry out an internal investigation which was completed in November 2005. No further action was taken and the provider remains qualified for registration. The provider has a record of this complaint to show to prospective parents.

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):

- develop children's awareness of personal hygiene by encouraging hand washing before snack time
- improve the cleanliness of the setting with particular regard to the toilet and kitchen areas
- develop the complaints procedure to meet with the new regulations
- ensure the visitors book is kept up to date
- develop and implement a staff register.

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:
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