



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY259784

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 16/02/2005  
Inspector Name Beverly Hallett

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care  
Setting Name Little Diamonds OSC  
Setting Address 208 Sydenham Road  
London  
SE26 5SE

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mr Anthony Michael Mensah

## ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

### Information about the setting

Little Diamonds Out of School care club operates from the Church Hall of Our lady and St Philip Neri. The Breakfast Club hours are 07:30 to 08:30 and the After School Club 15:00 to 18:00, during school terms. The Holiday Club Operates during school holidays from 08:00 to 18:00. Staff escort children too and from school by foot and also have access to appropriate transport for this purpose.

The clubs serves children attending schools within a mile radius of the premises, with most children attending St Michael's Primary School or Our Lady and St Philip Neri School.

The staff are appropriately qualified and experienced. They provide a range of interesting and appropriate activities for children as well as providing facilities and support for children to undertake homework if they so wish.

### How good is the Day Care?

Little Diamonds Out of School Club provides satisfactory care for children although many aspects of practice at the club is very good. Minor documentary requirements which affect the overall inspection outcome are absent such as the displaying of an emergency evacuation procedure and the seeking of written parental permission to transport children in the company vehicles.

The provision is well organised and staff are well qualified and experienced in working with children, enhancing their ability to provide suitable activities for a wide age range of children. There is a large play space which is well organised and sectioned into areas to enable children to choose freely between activities, although the lack of quiet, cosy areas and soft furnishings affects the setting's atmosphere, making it rather unwelcoming to younger age children. The premises are very secure and good policies and procedures support the safe and efficient management of the provision. Snacks provided are healthy and nutritious although the manner in which meals are provided could be improved to be a more social, relaxed occasion.

Most staff interact well with children, valuing their contributions and supporting individual skills and learning in all areas, although occasionally more noisy, boisterous children are allowed to affect the activities of the other children using the provision. Time is set aside for children to complete homework during the week and

staff support children's involvement in a good range of activities. There is a good range of toys and resources, including two computers providing children with good learning opportunities.

Well written policies and documentation support an effective partnership with parents and although no written records are kept, staff ensure information regarding children's care and progress is verbally exchanged on a regular basis.

#### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

N/A

#### **What is being done well?**

- The provision of a wide variety of toys and resources which offer play and learning opportunities across all areas.
- The training and experience of staff is of a high level, enabling them to care for children appropriately.
- The environment is well organised, clean and well maintained, with the use of screens enhancing the provision of distinct areas in which children can participate in a variety of activities.
- Very well written, standard policies and procedures are used to support staff practice in all areas and enhance the provision of a safe and well run setting.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- some safety aspects such as the gaining of written permission to use company vehicles to transport children and the displaying of the emergency evacuation procedure
- the way in which meals are offered to ensure this becomes a social, pleasurable occasion for children
- the provision of a comfortable, cosy and welcoming quiet/book area
- consistency amongst staff in encouraging positive behaviour in children

#### **PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS (This section applies only to inspections carried out from September 2004. The complaint record relates to complaints from the last inspection or 1st April 2004 whichever is later.)**

Concern received on 11 February 2005. The concern was about the safety of children being escorted between the out of school care club and their schools. Concern related to National Standard 2, how staff were organised to supervise the children and Standard 6, whether the children were safe.

On 15 February Ofsted requested that the registered provider investigate the concerns and report to Ofsted by 24 February. On 22 February Ofsted received a

comprehensive investigation report from the registered provider addressing all the issues raised in the allegation. The provider demonstrated that good procedures are in place and that there were followed by staff.

No evidence was found that National Standards had been breached, however, the registered provider has recognised that this is a critical area of activity and has decided to implement increased awareness training for staff and children and a review of escort arrangements.

The registered provider remains qualified for registration.

### **Outcome of the inspection**

Satisfactory

### **CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION**

*All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.*

*As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.*

### **WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**

#### **The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
6	ensure that the emergency evacuation procedure is displayed prominently in the setting;	11/03/2005
6	ensure written permission to transport children in company vehicles is obtained from all parents.	11/03/2005

#### **The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
4	improve the quiet or reading area by making it more cosy and welcoming to children;
8	review the way in which meals are provided to ensure children participate in a quiet calm occasion which promotes good social and behavioural norms;
11	encourage all staff to use positive behaviour management strategies to ensure children involved in noisy activities do not disrupt others;

## **SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS**

### **STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON**

*Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.*

### **STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION**

*The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.*

### **STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY**

*The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.*

### **STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

*The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.*

### **STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT**

*Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.*

### **STANDARD 6 - SAFETY**

*The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.*

### **STANDARD 7 - HEALTH**

*The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.*

### **STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK**

*Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.*

### **STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

*The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.*

### **STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)**

*The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is*

*proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.*

#### **STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR**

*Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.*

#### **STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS**

*The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.*

#### **STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION**

*The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.*

#### **STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION**

*Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.*