



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 199396

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 20/05/2004
Inspector Name Susan, Esther Harvey

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Lydiard Millicent After School Club ('Cool Owls')
Setting Address The Butts
Lydiard Millicent
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN5 3LR

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Lydiard Millicent After School Club 1095869

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Lydiard Millicent After School Club
Address The Butts
Lydiard Millicent
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN5 3LR

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

Cool Owls After School Club has been open since 2001. It operates from a single storey building in the grounds of Lydiard Millicent Primary School. Cool Owls Club serves the children who attend the school which covers a wide catchment area.

There are currently 30 children from four to eight years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The group operates an inclusive policy for children with special needs and children who speak English as an additional language. The group opens five days a week during term time. Sessions are from 15.00 to 18.00.

One full time and three part time staff work with the children. One staff member has a level three qualification. One staff member is currently on a training programme. The setting receives support from Bright Horizons and 4 Children.

How good is the Day Care?

The Cool Owls Club provides satisfactory care for children. The staff work well together as a team, one staff member has a level three qualification, but the minimum level of staff qualifications has not yet been met. The organisation of the setting enables children to be adequately supported whilst indoors. The supervision of children in the larger play area is not always sufficient. Children have access to toys and equipment, and the space available is appropriately used. The environment is warm and welcoming to children, and there is an informative noticeboard giving parents information about the setting. Policies and procedures are appropriately maintained and made accessible to parents.

The staff have an adequate understanding of safety issues and most areas of health and protection have been addressed. However, staff need to be more proactive in encouraging children to understand the importance of good hygiene practices. The club provides children with a choice of appropriate snacks and drinks.

The staff provide an adequate range of play and craft materials for children. However, the range of resources to encourage children's imagination and creativity is limited. The written planned activities are not expanded with the contributions from other staff members. The staff have an appropriate understanding of equal opportunities and child protection. Children's behaviour is managed adequately by staff, however some areas of behaviour management are not included in the policy.

The staff know the children well and parents are informed verbally of what has happened during the session, they are given the opportunity to comment on the service that is provided.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection Cool Owls Club was asked to submit an action plan detailing how the person in charge will achieve appropriate qualifications. The club were also asked to ensure that persons who are not vetted are not left alone with children; ensure that there is a named deputy; ensure that there are appropriate sized furniture for all children; ensure there is an appropriate registration system in place; ensure the contents of the first aid box are checked regularly; ensure that an incident record was kept, policy with regard to medication, and the regulators details to be made available to parents, provide a procedure in the event of any allegation made against a staff member, and produce a risk assessment to minimise hazards both inside and outside the premises.

Cool Owl Club have now improved the standard of record keeping and information to parents by providing written policies and procedures. The supervisor has now an appropriate qualification and a deputy has been appointed. The health and safety of the children has now been addressed with a full risk assessment regularly reviewed, appropriate furniture provided and the first aid box is complete and checked regularly.

However, at the last inspection Cool Owls Club were asked to submit an action plan detailing how half the staff will achieve a level two qualification appropriate to the care and development of children. This was achieved within the action date set at 26/06/2002. But due to staff changes this remains outstanding.

What is being done well?

- The children co-operate well with each other and are respectful of each other's feelings, they are involved in some aspects of the decision making process of the club which encourages them to be independent.
- The room used by the children is brightly decorated and well maintained, the space used is appropriately managed and children are comfortable in a clean environment.
- Staff have a clear understanding of the fire evacuation procedures which ensures that children are safe in an emergency.
- The staff encourage and promote nutritious snacks which enables the children to develop healthy eating routines.
- Parents are made welcome by the staff and there is sufficient information to enable a sound partnership which ensures that the needs of the children are appropriately met.

What needs to be improved?

- a written statement on behaviour management which includes bullying
- children's information with regard to hand washing routines
- planning of activities that include contributions from other staff members
- resources which challenge children's inventiveness
- staff qualifications
- books to be made readily accessible and in an appropriate condition for children to read and enjoy
- closer supervision of the children whilst using the larger outside space in order to ensure their safety in an area that is difficult to enclose.

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
2	Develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half of all childcare staff will hold a level 2 qualification in childcare.	20/05/2005

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

Std	Recommendation
3	Ensure that all staff are involved in the improvement of plans which reflect children's interests and free play activities.
5	Ensure resources are provided that will challenge and stimulate children's inventiveness with regard to construction toys and interesting outdoor games and books.
7	Establish regular hand washing routines with the children in order to prevent the spread of infection.
11	Provide a written statement that includes how instances of bullying will be

	managed.
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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.