



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 123651

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 07/10/2003
Inspector Name Jane Mount

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Rascals After School Club
Setting Address Redbourn Junior School
Longcutt
REDBOURN
Hertfordshire
AL3 7EX

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Committee of Rascals After School Club

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Rascals After School Club
Address Redbourn Junior School
Longcutt
Redbourn
Hertfordshire
AL3 7EX

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

Redbourn After School Club takes place at Redbourn Junior school and is for children from the adjoining Infant and the Junior school. It is registered for 26 children.

The club is open Tuesday to Friday from 15:15 to 17:45, term time only. It is managed by a voluntary committee of parents and the leader is Sharon Hide and her deputy is Carol Clarke.

The areas available for use by the After School Club include the dining room, the school hall, and a library area. There is a small kitchen adjoined to the dining room and girl and boy toilets close by. The outside area includes the use of the school playing fields and playground. It is fully secure and is not used by the public.

How good is the Day Care?

Redbourn After School club provides satisfactory care for children.

The staff organise an interesting programme of activities and allow the children to make their own decisions and choices. Staff interaction is carefully balanced allowing the children time to learn independently but also giving them support and direction where appropriate. The children are interested in the toys and equipment available and are involved in their play. The resources provide sufficient challenge and promote equality of opportunity.

There is a strong partnership with parents and information is shared on a regular basis. Parents are welcomed into the club and there is a supportive parent committee. Policies and procedures are available to parents and are generally comprehensive. However, it needs to be ensured that they are implemented effectively. Staff are prepared to develop their skills by attending available training courses and keeping up to date with childcare issues.

Areas for promoting children's health and safety are generally satisfactory and the dietary needs of the children are met well with information relating to individual dietary requirements being recorded. Good behaviour is valued and encouraged and any inappropriate behaviour is dealt with in a sensitive and consistent manner.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the provider agreed to ensure there was a system of recording fire drills and also recording any Incidents that may occur. This has been achieved through keeping a book in which all fire drills are recorded and an Incident book is kept to record any significant incidents.

It was also agreed to ensure there was a written statement based on the Area Child Protection Committee guidance. The club have now obtained a copy of the guidance and this is referred to in their child protection policy.

The After School club agreed to demonstrate how staff will gain appropriate qualifications and an action plan has been devised showing how qualifications will be achieved.

The club was also asked to demonstrate how areas not included in their registration were made inaccessible to children. This has been achieved through supervision by staff and ensuring doors leading to other areas within the school, such as classrooms are closed.

It was also agreed that the club would ensure children could not gain access to electrical sockets through the use of socket covers. This has not yet been completed.

What is being done well?

- The children are involved in a wide range of planned and free play activities and are able to make their own choices. The staff are interested and involved in what the children do and say and each child is listened to. (Standard 3)
- The environment is welcoming and child friendly. Space is organised to meet the children's needs and to allow them to take part in a varied range of play opportunities both inside and out. (Standard 4)
- Independence is encouraged at tea time as the children are given choice from a varied menu. Tea time is seen as a social event and children are encouraged to sit with their friends and discuss the school day in a relaxed manner. (Standard 8)
- Information is shared with parents through regular discussions and staff work in close partnership with parents. Parents are welcomed into the setting. (Standard 12)

What needs to be improved?

- qualification requirements for After School club leader; (Standard 2.4)
- the procedures for Induction training; (Standard 2.4)
- the procedure for staff signing in and out; (Standard 2.13)

- displaying fire procedures; (Standard 6.9)
- the procedures for identifying and minimising hazards both inside and out; (Standard 6.1; Standard 6.2)
- knowledge of child protection. (Standard 13.3)

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 reasonable steps are taken to minimise hazards to children. (This refers to electrical sockets in areas used by the After School Club). Standard 6.1	22/10/2003

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

Std	Recommendation
2	ensure leader obtains an appropriate level 3 qualification as set out and agreed in the action plan. Standard 2.4
2	ensure all staff receive formal induction training which informs them of how the setting operates. Standard 2.4
2	ensure there is a system for registering staff attendance on a daily basis, showing hours of attendance. Standard 2.13
6	ensure a risk assessment of the premises is completed; identifying risks both inside and out; evaluate who will be put at risk; identify what action is needed to eliminate the risk; identify who will be responsible for taking necessary action. Standard 6.2
6	ensure the fire statement of the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire are displayed. Standard 6.9
13	ensure staff knowledge of child protection issues is regularly updated

	through appropriate training and that there is a designated member of staff responsible for liason in any child protection situation. Standard 13.3
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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.