

COOL KIDS CLUB

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number 134330
Inspection date 11/11/2010
Inspector Jacqueline Lawson

Setting address Wheatley Primary School, Littleworth Road, Wheatley,
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Type of setting Childcare on non-domestic premises

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Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

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Description of the setting

Cool Kids Club has been registered since 1990. It is a committee run group operated by parents. The provision offers a breakfast club, lunch club, after school club, and holiday playscheme for school age children living in Wheatley and the surrounding areas. Pre-school children join the club at lunchtime between pre-school sessions. The club is based in its own building in the grounds of Wheatley Primary School. The club is open during term time from 7.30am until 8.30am, 11.45am until 1.00pm, and 3.00pm until 5.30pm. The playscheme operates during most school holidays from 8.30am until 5.30pm. The group is registered to look after a maximum of 40 children in total at each session. There are currently 65 children on the register, including children over the age of eight years. The number attending all aspects of the group varies constantly. The club building includes a large activity room, a small room for quiet time, a work room, a kitchen and toilet facilities. Children also use the large outdoor playground areas of the school which house a tennis court, children's playground area and football fields. The club is run by five permanent and qualified members of staff, two of whom have early years qualifications to level 4 and the other three have level 3. They are supported by three additional occasional helpers. There is wheelchair access and disabled toilets on the premises.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The Cool Kids Club is a satisfactory provision that offers a variety of before and after school care, lunchtime provision and holiday clubs. The staff know the children well and provide a good range of activities to keep them occupied at the end of the school day and during the holidays. Children enjoy attending the club. The club provides for the needs of all children and has systems in place to deal with children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and for children that have English as their second language. The manager has a satisfactory understanding of self-evaluation of the setting and the need for continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- inform parents more effectively about events, news and policies and procedures by revising the present information sheet and information board
- ensure that the staff meet regularly to drive improvement in the setting and consider applying to join an endorsement scheme to help raise the quality of self-evaluation
- ensure all staff have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding issues and are able to implement safeguarding procedures.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The leadership and management of the club is satisfactory. Safeguarding policies including safe recruitment and vetting procedures are in place but are not robust. All staff have a satisfactory knowledge of how to protect children and keep them safe, however, their knowledge is still basic and needs to become more secure. The staff have been appropriately vetted but Ofsted has not been informed about changes in staffing and committee members. The provider has committed an offence by failing to notify us of a change to the person who is managing the early years provision. This is a specific legal requirement in the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Ofsted does not intend to prosecute on this occasion. All policies and procedures are written and available to parents. The manager has begun the process of self-evaluation to consider the quality of the provision that the club offers and to make improvements where necessary. However, the staff do not attend regular staff meetings or have developed membership with a quality insurance scheme in order to improve outcomes for children. The staff work well as a team and some step in at the last moment to make sure that satisfactory ratios of staff to children are maintained. Most of the staff are well qualified and most work in the school and pre-school on the same campus.

The club is run in a purpose built, well heated building with good outdoor spaces to ensure that the children have a good variety of activities to keep them occupied at the end of the school day and during holiday clubs. The various rooms in the building have a designated use, including a room where children can sit and watch television if they wish providing that they have parent's permission. Good equal opportunities procedures are in place and all children get a chance to choose their own activities. Care is taken to make sure that all children are valued and their needs are met.

Parents are very happy with the care that the club offers. They are kept informed by way of a notice board and information leaflet. These are both satisfactory but the manager is now considering how to develop this to ensure that policies and procedures and key information are clear and explained to the parents. Security to the setting has recently been upgraded and keeps the children safe. Pick up procedures both at the school at the start of the sessions and for parents at the end of the session are secure. The children are registered in by staff and signed out by parents. Parents have a good rapport with the staff. The Club has a good partnership with both the school and the adjoining pre-school. Teachers from the school inform club staff of any concerns that they have with pupils.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

The overall provision that the club offers is satisfactory, with some good aspects. There are a number of Early Years Foundation Stage children who attend both breakfast and after school sessions and some children from pre-school come to

both lunchtime and evening sessions. A good variety of resources reflects the whole range of early years provision. For example, there is a home corner and dressing up box for imaginative play. The older children also have a breadth of challenge and fun with many age appropriate games to play with. The staff recognise that some children like to have a quiet place to sit and perhaps do their homework at the end of a busy day, so they are beginning to resource a room for that purpose. Painting, craft work and board games are offered in most sessions.

Cooking and baking is a popular regular activity in the club kitchen. Foods for Diwali and Chinese New Year have been prepared and enjoyed. Good kitchen procedures are in place to ensure a healthy breakfast and safe cooking sessions. A list of children with allergies is pinned clearly to the fridge door. The dedicated cooking adult makes sure that the children use appropriate and safe equipment. Children wash their hands before handling food. The snack offered is a healthy one with a selection of fresh fruit and access to fresh water at all times.

A locked first aid box and trained first aiders are on hand during every session. The club makes full use of the extensive outdoor facilities and the children like to get out every day and are encouraged to run around and exercise, for example, skateboarding whilst wearing safety clothing. Children are confident in the setting and in their relationships with each other and members of staff. They develop personal independence, making their own choices and freely selecting activities and games to explore. The staff promote equal opportunities and all children are treated as individuals. Staff know the children well and provide activities based on their interests.

There are procedures in place to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Many of the staff work in the school or pre-school in the same grounds supporting children who require additional help in the classroom. This enables them to provide clear continuity of care at the after school club. The children are encouraged to take responsibility and a regular meeting with all of the children where minutes are recorded helps to value the children's contribution. Every week there is a winner for the club cup. The children enjoy having the cup presented and a photograph displayed on the notice board and put into the winner's book. This helps to motivate the children to behave appropriately and develop self-esteem. The children have access to computers and a new games console has just been purchased by funds raised by the tuck shop that the children help to run.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality
Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong
Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound
Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met