

Hi 5 Out of School Care

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY409354
Inspection date 24/01/2011
Inspector Glenda Pownall

Setting address St. Augustines RC Primary School, Daws Hill Lane, HIGH
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Telephone number 07775626520

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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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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

Hi 5 Out of School Care is privately owned. It operates from several rooms, including the hall, dining room and library building in St. Augustines RC Primary School in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. A maximum of 40 children under eight years may attend the club at any one time, of whom no more than 20 may be in the early years age group. The club is open each weekday from 3.15pm to 6.15pm term time only. During school holidays, the club opens each weekday from 9am to 5pm if there is sufficient demand from parents. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play.

The setting is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently 52 children aged from four to under 12 years on roll. Of these, 25 children are in the early years age group. The club currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs six staff. The manager and one staff member hold appropriate early years qualifications. There are three staff working towards a qualification.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

Children's feeling of safety in the club is undermined by a significant number of breaches of requirements linked to different aspects of safeguarding. Despite this, staff are kind and caring towards children and, with the exception of safeguarding, they generally meet children's individual needs. There is no effective self-evaluation system in place. However, the leadership and management demonstrate a willingness to make the necessary changes to meet requirements and improve outcomes for children.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure there are effective procedures in place for checking that staff are suitable to work with children and ensure those not checked do not have unsupervised contact with the children (Suitable people) 07/02/2011

- ensure all members of staff understand the safeguarding policy and procedure and take steps to ensure the premises are safe from intruders and children cannot leave unescorted (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare; also applies to the Childcare Register) 28/01/2011
- develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half childcare staff will hold a level 2 childcare qualification (Suitable people) 07/02/2011
- request written permission from parents for, seeking emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 07/02/2011
- ensure the risk assessment covers all areas used by children and clearly identifies any potential hazards, together with any action taken to make the area safe. (Suitable premises, environment and equipment; also applies to the Childcare Register) 07/02/2011

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop a system for evaluating the provisions strengths and weaknesses to improve outcomes for children
- develop systems to ensure all required paperwork is readily accessible and available for inspection.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Procedures to ensure children's safety are not robust. Some staff have a secure knowledge of the child protection procedures to follow to protect children, whilst others do not understand their responsibilities. The club has not carried out enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosures for all staff working directly with the children. For example, a disclosure is not in place for staff running a dance activity that children attend whilst still in the care of the club. Staff start working with children before all suitability checks are back and are generally supervised. However, only two staff work in the library area and this means there are times when unchecked staff are left alone with children. This does not ensure children are safeguarded and is a breach of requirements.

Risk assessments are conducted but these are not sufficiently rigorous to ensure that all potential hazards are identified and minimised. Strangers are able to walk in unnoticed and go unchallenged by staff because an external door is sometimes open. This creates a potential risk of children leaving the premises unsupervised. At times, both the entrance and another external exit are unsecure and this presents the potential hazard to children and staff of intruders entering the building. Staff do not do a head count before escorting children to the library building. They do not have a record of how many children are present because the attendance register remains with staff working with children in the dining room area. This does not promote children's safety.

Documentation is not organised effectively as it is not always easy to find particular documents or records. For example, some staff were asked to produce their CRB disclosures for inspection as there was no record of the necessary details accessible. All required policies are in place to support the running of the club. Not all required written consents to support children's health are in place. For example, consent to seek emergency medical advice or attention has not been requested from parents. The club does not meet the requirements with regard to qualifications as not half of all staff, other than the manager, hold a full level 2 qualification.

There is no efficient process in place to monitor and reflect on what is done well and where improvements are necessary. The club values the support of the local authority childcare officer and uses these visits to review practice. The club's reflection on these visits is not sufficiently in-depth to address a number of significant issues with regard to safeguarding. However, the club is driving improvements with regard to qualification requirements as three staff are attending relevant training. Children access a suitable range of resources. Staff source resources to support craft activities from the Resource Centre and this raises children's awareness of looking after the environment by reusing materials.

All children are treated with equal respect and concern because staff have a generally secure knowledge of children's backgrounds and individual needs. There are appropriate procedures in place for staff to communicate with teachers at the school to share information about children's well-being. Parents are provided with information about the club when children first start. Staff greet parents warmly at the end of the day and exchange information about the day's activities and children's well-being. This contributes towards continuity of care. Parents are very happy with the childcare the club provides. They particularly like how happy their children are in the club and the range of activities.

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

Children spend most of their time in the library, which provides a comfortable area for them to move freely between activities and to rest. Most activities are child-initiated and children are extremely good at occupying themselves. Planning is flexible to take account of children's interests. Staff allow children the freedom to organise their own games but provide help and support when required. Children enjoy making a ball catcher. They use dressing up resources to go to a 'wedding'. Children work cooperatively together to create models from construction resources. They play cards games with each other and with staff. Children communicate effectively with each other and there is lots of chatter at activities. Children develop skills to aid their future learning.

Children are kind to each other and include other in their games. Staff listen and respond warmly to what children say. This develops self-esteem. Staff treat children with courtesy and respect and children behave well. Children develop

positive relationships with staff and each other and they are happy and settled in the club. Children say they enjoy coming to the club. They particularly like the range of toys and the friends they have in the club. However, children's feeling of safety is impacted on by the overall weaknesses in safeguarding.

Children's personal care arrangements are generally well met. However, staff's lack of vigilance with regard to the security of the premises means that they do not adequately encourage children to think about their own safety. As a result, children do not challenge strangers to their club. Children know to wash their hands after visiting the toilet but they are unable to dry their hands as the hand dryers are not working. This does not support children in developing good personal hygiene routines. Children access the outdoor areas to develop their physical skills when the weather allows.

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?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	4
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
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	4
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	4
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	4
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
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:

Not Met (with actions)

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

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as for the Early Years Register (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) 25/01/2011
- ensure that all necessary measures are taken to minimise any identified risks (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 07/02/2011
- keep a written record of medicines given to children (Records to be kept) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 07/02/2011

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Suitability of persons, Suitability and safety of premises and equipment, Records to be kept) 07/02/2011