

Saltergate Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY276903
Inspection date	05/05/2011
Inspector	Nora Waugh

Setting address	Saltergate Infant School, Newby Crescent, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 2TT
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Telephone number	07812935137
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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

Saltergate Kids Club offers before and after school care. Although the club has been running for a number of years it has been newly registered since November 2003. The club is privately owned and operates from Saltergate Infant School which is situated on the outskirts of Harrogate. The club is registered to care for thirty four children and there are currently fifty three children on roll aged three to 12 years. The club use the busy room and the gateways room. Children have use of the school playground and playing fields for outdoor play. The setting predominantly serves the children of Saltergate Junior School and Saltergate Infant School. Children attend full and part time. The club operates Monday to Friday term time only between the hours of 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:00 to 18:00. The setting is currently supporting a number of children with special needs. There are five staff members, two of whom work part time. Three members of staff hold a relevant childcare qualification.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children really enjoy coming to Saltergate Kids Club where they can relax and play safely with friends after the school day. They are cared for by warm and welcoming practitioners who like being with them. All children are comfortable in this very inclusive setting where their needs are well understood. The club has good relationships and with parents and with the infant and junior schools on site. Children can access a wide range of activities and resources including an exciting and stimulating outdoor area. All issues identified at the last inspection have been addressed. Systems for continued self evaluation are mostly good.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- strengthen self-evaluation and quality improvement processes by involving more fully the whole staff team and parents.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

All policies and procedures are in place to ensure children are safe and secure. Checks for staff suitability to work with children and child protection issues are well understood. All staff attend required training regularly keeping knowledge of safeguarding in particular current. The premises are secure and systems for signing children in from school and out when collected by parents are good as are risk assessments. Children know and follow routines and safe practices and actively contribute to them. All the required policies and procedures are in place and regularly reviewed.

Staff are well organised and friendly. Relationships throughout are good and this contributes to children being happy and secure. Children within the Early Years Foundation Stage have their needs well met. The environment is clean, tidy and well organised resources are good and easily accessible to children. The Gateway outside area which the club can use provides challenge but is also very safe. Staff are suitably qualified and required ratios easily met. Most practitioners work in the schools as well as at the club and this leads to the extremely good links between them all. These are particularly evident in the support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Parents are welcomed into the club and are enthusiastic about the care their children receive. Without hesitation they say they would recommend it to other parents.

There is a strong commitment to meeting the needs of children and families. There is a strong commitment to improvement. For example, staff are supported well to raise their skills and qualifications. Self evaluation is largely undertaken by those in charge and although accurate, realistic and challenging does not fully enough involve all the staff and parents.

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

Saltergate Kids Club encourage children to choose the activities they want to do and practitioners follow their interests and cues as to when to come and support play. Children are confident and independent in deciding where to play and enjoyment levels are high. The club uses two rooms, a busy room with computers, construction toys and activities principally for older children, and the Gateway room. This room is used mainly by the pre-nursery provision for the infant school and is well resourced with a range of activities suitable for younger children. Children can, for example, explore insect environments as part of small world play or engage in role play with their friends. The outdoor area is ideal for young children and includes sand play, wheeled toys and a fixed climbing area with dens incorporated. A large group of children including the youngest have fun playing at knights in a castle. The school field is also used for more structured games.

Relationships are good and older children as well as practitioners support the younger ones well. Planning is not formal but children are listened to and their interests built on so that their needs are met. "Toast and chat" at breakfast time is used well for these discussions. There are plenty of opportunities for children to relax and read or draw, write and make things if they wish to. Opportunities to try food from other cultures and to celebrate festivals and events like Red Nose Day are also incorporated into the programme. Portfolios show the progress of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage and include observations and photographs. These are shared between the club, Gateway pre-school and the nursery and cover all areas of learning.

Behaviour is good and children work well together. Provision for healthy lifestyles is good with children selecting from a range of healthy snacks and drinks, which are available throughout the session. Children access outdoors in all weather and

their enjoyment of this is obvious even in the rain. Children have a satisfactory understanding of how to stay safe. They are independent and make decisions about what they want to play with throughout the session. Good opportunities to develop literacy and ICT skills support children's future development well.

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?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

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

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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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