

AM2PM Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY313723
Inspection date	27/02/2012
Inspector	Margaret Travers

Setting address	Westmeads CP Infant School, Cromwell Road, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 1NA
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Type of setting	Childcare - Non-Domestic
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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

Kindergarten Kids Ltd AM2PM Club is an out-of-school club. It is managed by Kindergarten Kids Ltd. The club operates from the main hall and family room within Westmeads Infant school in Whitstable, Kent. The club is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 24 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday during term time only. Children attend for a variety of sessions each week. The breakfast club operates from 7.30am to 9am and the after-school-club operates from 2.45pm to 6pm. Staff escort children between the club and their classrooms. The club provides snacks and cooked meals. All children have access to a secure outdoor play area. There are currently 51 children aged from four to under eight years on roll. Of these eight children are within the early years age range. The club employs eight members of staff. Of these, seven members of staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The club provides children with a good range of enjoyable activities that support their interests well. Experienced staff take care of children's welfare effectively and meet their individual needs successfully. Children have access to a safe and secure outdoor area where they thrive and enjoy physical games. Overall, activities and resources successfully support children's progress, development and relaxation. A generally effective evaluation system strengthens ongoing improvement, and management and staff work well together. The club has good relationships with parents and the school, and provides a happy atmosphere for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- extend processes for parents to contribute their ideas and suggestions regularly in order to support the club's self-evaluation
- create a quiet and comfortable area indoors for children's relaxation and quiet activities.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Staff give a high priority to keeping children safe and promoting their welfare. They receive effective training to recognise children at risk and they know how to respond to concerns. Employment procedures are robust and effectively assess the suitability of staff. The management team actively identify and support staff to develop their knowledge and skills successfully. All necessary records and documentation are in place and maintained to a high standard. Staff are vigilant and implement a comprehensive programme of risk assessment in order to reduce hazards and keep children safe.

Staff promote equality of opportunity and diversity well. They successfully acknowledge and value differences, and show this when taking account of children's individual needs. There is a strong emphasis on treating children as individuals and staff have a good understanding of their backgrounds and interests.

Considered organisation of the environment and free access to the outdoor area provide children with good choices to take part in a full range of activities. Equipment supports children's learning and development effectively in most areas. Quiet activities are available, although there is no cosy, quiet space indoors. This weakness has some limitations for children who prefer this type of play, or who need to rest.

The club works well to establish beneficial links with the school staff and other supportive agencies. Parents speak highly of the staff and feel involved in their children's out-of-school care. There are effective arrangements to encourage a two-way flow of information so that families play a key role in their children's progress. Parents discuss issues about their children's welfare daily. They are able to contribute their views about the club annually, although there is no particular system to encourage this on an ongoing basis.

The management team and staff have high aspirations for the quality of the provision, which they share in regular meetings. Professional support is available to staff and there is a regular emphasis on team discussions to develop ongoing improvement. Staff actively encourage children to contribute their views and opinions about the club, for example during discussions at teatime. The club is successfully meeting recommendations from the last inspection.

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

Children really enjoy their time at the club and have fun in the company of staff and children of different ages. They benefit from the staff team's detailed knowledge of their individual needs. This understanding enables children to build

strong, trusting relationships so they become confident, independent and motivated to try new activities. Staff effectively organise the accommodation to give children the freedom to move around taking part in different activities and games, which they choose themselves.

Children are happy and relaxed as they explore the wide range of good quality resources to develop their skills for the future. Staff observe children and take photographs for the club's album. This process is effective as it helps staff to plan further activities appropriate for individual interests. Staff use their knowledge of children well to meet their individual needs as they play. Children benefit from the staff's enthusiasm, interaction and involvement in their chosen activities. Their language development benefits greatly from animated conversations with staff as they walk from school to the club. Staff successfully encourage children to learn about different cultures as they take part in fun Chinese New Year activities.

Children feel safe in the reassuring atmosphere of the club environment. They are eager to take advantage of the spacious outdoor area where they learn to keep themselves safe during energetic activities, such as group games and football activities. They regularly practise well-recorded fire drills so that they know how to respond sensibly in an emergency. Children readily adopt healthy lifestyles, choosing to spend time outdoors during physical activities and making healthy food choices at meal times. They routinely help to prepare food and serve at teatime, which is effective in encouraging independence. They enjoy nutritious cooked meals and talk confidently about why they are healthy. Children are clear about boundaries and help to create displays about the rules they should have in their club. They behave well because they are interested and engaged throughout the club sessions.

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