

St Joseph Federation B.A.S.C

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY439207
Inspection date 18/04/2012
Inspector Denys Rasmussen

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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

St Joseph Federation B.A.S.C is a privately owned out-of-school club operating in a hall in St. Josephs RC Junior School. The club provides before and after school care from 7.30am until 9am and then from 3pm until 6pm, term-time only. The service is provided for pupils of the school. The club has use of one large hall, with toilet and kitchen facilities. There are outdoor areas on the school grounds that can be used for outside play.

There are five staff members; three of whom have appropriate qualifications. The club is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to care for 35 children; of these 15 may be in the early years age group at any one time. There are 54 children currently on roll and of these, 14 are in the early years age group.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

Systems to safeguard and promote children's welfare are not sufficiently robust overall; consequently, not all legal requirements are met relating to the suitability of adults. However, the club demonstrates a sound capacity to improve, using a satisfactory system of self-evaluation, which has enabled continuous improvements since registration. Children are making satisfactory progress towards the early learning goals and the environment and activities encourage children to be active and promote their social skills. However, displays of children's work and other items relating to their experiences are currently limited. Arrangements for engaging with parents and other providers are satisfactory and continuously developing, which supports consistency of children's care and their learning.

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.

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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:

- keep records of the information used to assess suitability to demonstrate to Ofsted that checks have 26/05/2012

- been done, including the number and date of issue of the enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure (Suitable people)
- obtain an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosure in respect of every person aged 16 or over working with the children and do not allow people whose suitability has not been checked to have unsupervised contact with children who are being cared for (Suitable people) 26/05/2012
 - ensure all documentation is readily available for inspection by Ofsted (Documentation) 26/05/2012

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- improve displays that remind children of what they have experienced, using objects, artefacts, photographs, books and children's work

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Arrangements for safeguarding children are not robust enough to ensure all staff are adequately checked for their suitability to work with children. This means that some adults whose suitability has not been checked currently have unsupervised access to children. Furthermore, inefficient record keeping and accountability mean some suitability checks on staff are not available for inspection. This results in an overall failure to safeguard children effectively. Nonetheless, key staff have a sound understanding of the procedures to follow if they become concerned about a child's welfare. Additionally, three staff hold an appropriate first aid qualification which enables them to deal with children's minor accidents appropriately.

Children have access to a wide range of safe, developmentally appropriate resources that encourage active play. The room is suitably organised to give children opportunities to become independent and to choose how they spend their time. The club value diversity and acknowledge a range of cultural traditions and festivals. For example, the children enjoyed making a dragon and lanterns to celebrate Chinese New Year. Boys and girls are encouraged to participate in all activities and staff are careful not to gender stereotype activities. For example, staff encourage all the children to sew, play team games and role play.

The manager is endeavouring to improve the service she offers and has recently appraised her staff. She has identified their strengths and some weaknesses to plan their future training needs to improve outcomes for the children. However, this is not rigorous in identifying key priorities including ensuring children are adequately safeguarded. The club has made improvements since registration through self-evaluation systems, which include listening to the children's and parent's suggestions. For example, they now ensure the gate is padlocked when the children are outdoors playing and have increased outdoor play equipment. Because of the club's policy on restricting mobile phone usage, staff use radio

equipment to communicate with each other when children are playing outdoors. This supports children's safety. Parents receive satisfactory information about the setting's policies and procedures through a portfolio at the setting, a parent's notice board and through newsletters. Daily verbal discussions with parents and teachers in the school enable information to be suitably shared about the children. This helps to promote consistency of children's care and learning. Children are able to attend extra curricula activities provided at the school because staff at the club are able to take them. Parents comment about the accommodating and friendly staff. They appreciate the help their children get with their homework and report their children thoroughly enjoy attending the club.

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

The staff use their observations of the children to plan future activities. Staff know the children well enough to enable them to provide satisfactory learning opportunities. They balance the learning experiences children receive at school by supporting their physical and social development through play based activities. Children understand the club rules exist to keep them safe, such as telling a member of staff that they are going to the toilet, and to stop and listen to the staff when they hear the bell ring. However, the weaknesses in safeguarding means children's safety cannot be assured. Their behaviour is positive most of the time and staff remind them to listen and to respect what is being asked of them. For example, when its time to tidy up before tea.

Children are offered healthy meals, such as pasta, meat sauce and cheese. They have access to a fruit and vegetable snack table, promoting their independence and understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children are encouraged to be active. They play football, basket ball and enjoy manoeuvring balls around obstacles. The daily fresh air and exercise support children's physical skills well. Furthermore, these outdoor play opportunities support children as they learn to follow rules, work as part of a team and take turns.

All the children attend the same school and are very familiar with the premises, which instils a sense of belonging. However, only a very small amount of children's work is on display. Therefore, the environment is not exploited to its full potential to remind children of what they have experienced. Children make choices in their play. They enjoy relaxing after school with their friends on the sofa or taking part in activities such as table tennis, sewing, gardening and cooking. Children have opportunities to learn about nature when feeding the birds and use their imagination and design skills when constructing with different media. Children enjoy attending the club and make comments such as 'I like to feed the birds'; 'I like to play with my friends', and 'I like writing'.

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	3

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	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	4
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	3
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	3
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:

- implement effective systems to ensure that any person caring for, or in regular contact with, children is suitable to work with children, which must include obtaining an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check (Suitability of persons to care for, or be in regular contact with, children) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 26/05/2012

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 for the compulsory requirements of the Childcare Register (Suitability of persons to care for, or be in regular contact with, children) 26/05/2012