

# The Cottages Play Away

Kingsclere Primary School, Kingsclere, Newbury, Berkshire, RG20 5RE



## Inspection date

29 April 2015

## Previous inspection date

1 February 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>2</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children enjoy a good variety of activities after school, which complement their school experiences effectively. The club enables them to develop their skills as they play and socialise.
- Staff encourage children's awareness of a healthy lifestyle. They talk to them about the healthy foods they provide and encourage children to follow good hygiene routines and enjoy physical activity.
- Positive partnerships with parents and the school help to promote a mutual understanding of each child. This enables staff to target support so children make good progress.
- Behaviour is good and staff are positive role models. Children are helpful and they look after the resources.
- Regular team meetings help the staff to work consistently together and provide a fun environment for the children.
- Good care is taken to promote all aspects of safeguarding. For example, staff have individual health care plans for children with medical or specific needs.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some children are tired after school and do not have anywhere particularly comfortable to relax.
- Children do not have easy access to sensory activities to build on their skills.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

**To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:**

- improve opportunities for children to enjoy sensory activities, for example dough, sand and water play
- enhance the environment to enable children to relax comfortably to look at books, talk or watch what is happening around them.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector toured the premises and resources with the manager.
- The inspector observed the children and staff at play and observed an activity with the manager.
- The inspector examined records and documents provided by the manager.
- The inspector discussed the club with parents.
- The inspector read the club's self-evaluation.

## **Inspector**

Lynne Lewington

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good**

Staff understand how to encourage learning through play. They encourage children to make choices and develop their skills as they have fun with their friends. For example, staff talk to children about the creations they make with small beads, encouraging children to share ideas and talk. Children make patterns on the bead templates, developing a variety of skills as they search for colours and add the beads to their patterns. Staff encourage children to use their emerging reading and writing skills in the activities. Children make choices and can request items to play with. However, children do not have many opportunities to participate in activities that encourage the use of their senses. Staff are keen to follow children's interests and they purchase items that they know children particularly like. Staff carefully monitor children's play and interaction to ensure that they enjoy themselves and benefit from the club activities as they develop their skills and interests.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good**

This is a calm, happy environment where every child is important. Positive relationships develop between the children and the staff because staff understand children's needs well. As a result, children are confident and very happy to attend; they often do not want to go home. Parents fully appreciate the opportunities their children have to play, make choices and enjoy physical activities outdoors. Children behave well; they show care and consideration for each other and look after the resources. Staff are positive role models using good manners and showing genuine interest in the children and their activities. Children demonstrate increasing awareness of good health and hygiene routines and staff remind them when they forget. They enjoy outdoor activities, making good use of the lovely school playing field and playgrounds.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good**

The caring, nurturing staff are enthusiastic about the service they provide. They successfully create a safe and fun environment after school. However, the base room does not provide the children with a comfortable area where they can sit quietly to relax. This is important for young children who have experienced a long school day. The views of children, staff and parents are all used to evaluate the provision. This helps them strive to continuously develop the quality of the service. The manager recognises the benefits of training opportunities. For example, after a workshop about communication, staff improved the way they communicate within the club. This has had a positive impact on behaviour and relationships. There are effective systems for recruitment, induction and supervision of staff. Regular team meetings ensure important information is shared and staff have opportunities to plan. All the requirements are met.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY231354
<b>Local authority</b>	Hampshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	837089
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out of school provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	4 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	20
<b>Name of provider</b>	Necia Jones-White
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 February 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	01635 298583

The Cottages Play Away Out Of School Club registered in 1998. It operates from Kingsclere Primary School, Kingsclere, Berkshire. The Out Of School Club opens Monday to Friday, from 3.15pm to 6.00pm. Three staff work with the children, two of whom hold relevant qualifications at level 3.

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