



St Edwards Out of Hours Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	322423
Inspection date	15 November 2005
Inspector	Elaine Murray
Setting Address	Runnymede School, South Drive, Sandfield Park, Liverpool, Merseyside, L12 1LF
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Registered person	Out of Hours Kids Club Ltd
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

St Edwards Out of Hours Kids' Club is one of 11 clubs run by the Out of Hours Kids' Club Ltd. It opened in 1996 and operates from Runnymede School in Liverpool. Children have access to a hall and outdoor play area. The club opens five days a week, during school term from 08.00 until 09.00 and from 15.30 to 18.00. The provision also operates during school holiday times from 08.00 until 18.00.

There are currently 43 children aged from 3 to under 8 years on roll. All children on roll attend Runnymede School.

The club employs 16 staff. 11 staff including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications and another 4 staff are working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's physical skills are developed well through regular access to an outdoor area and equipment. They confidently run and play team games outside. In bad weather staff make use of the indoor area to provide physical activities to promote children's skills. A clear sickness policy, which is shared with parents helps to protect children from the spread of infection. Children show an awareness of simple hygienic procedures as they wash their hands at appropriate times of the day. Children's health is protected as appropriate procedures are in place to care for children in the event of illness, accident or emergency.

Children's understanding of healthy eating is well promoted. They are provided with nutritious and healthy snacks and breakfasts. Children learn about a healthy diet through discussion and activities, such as completing food diaries where they record what they have eaten for a week, aiming to eat the recommended five portions a day of fruit or vegetables. They have regular access to fresh drinking water to promote their good health. Children's dietary needs and preferences are taken into account, helping to ensure children's good health and enjoyment of food.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment. Children's work is displayed on the group's board and an interesting range of toys and resources are put out for the children to choose from. This helps to foster children's sense of belonging and independence. Space is used to provide areas for different activities but there is no clear area where children can rest or play quietly without disturbance.

Children are developing an awareness of how to keep themselves as staff explain carefully why they should not run during the fire evacuation procedure. Staff take effective measures to ensure children's safety. Children are well supervised. Staff produce a thorough risk assessment of the activities undertaken. This helps to ensure that children are kept safe.

Children are well protected as staff have a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and hold relevant contact numbers.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are settled and happy in the club. They have warm and positive relationships with staff, which helps to promote children's confidence and self esteem. Children clearly enjoy participating in the broad range of activities offered, which promote their all round development. They happily play with construction toys, drawing materials, role play and electronic games. Children show enthusiasm and involvement as they participate in a craft activity and outdoor ball games. They show independence as they select their own activities. Staff follow children's interests and choices, joining in their activities to further children's learning and promote their self esteem. Children are confident to request resources and activities that they would like to use but are not already out. Staff meet these requests and provide support for children in completing activities, further promoting their confidence and sense of achievement.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are valued and respected as individuals which helps to promote their self esteem. Children clearly feel a strong sense of belonging. They make a positive contribution to the club as they take turns to call the register and voluntarily help to prepare snack and tidy away afterwards. Children learn about differences between people as they discuss topics such as blindness, look at Braille books and complete related activities. Children's understanding of diversity and the wider world is also promoted through use of a range of resources reflecting positive images.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. There is a calm atmosphere in the club and children happily co operate well together to play and share resources. They patiently wait their turn to play table top snooker, sitting sensibly and watching the others play. Children are secure in the routines of the club and are polite. They show a clear understanding of staff's expectations for their good behaviour, at times reminding other children of the rules.

Children benefit from a good partnership with parents. Relationships with parents are friendly. Parents are informed of policies and procedures and information is shared verbally at the beginning or end of sessions and through regular newsletters. Children's details are requested when they join the club. This communication helps to ensure that children's needs are effectively met. Parents views are sought and valued, for example, through taking account of their responses to a recent questionnaire. This positive partnership contributes to the good quality of care offered.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The club is organised effectively to meet children's needs. Space is generally well organised to provide a good range of play opportunities for children. A clear appointments procedure ensures that suitably qualified and experienced staff work with the children. Thorough procedures for staff induction and appraisal mean that

staff are clear about their roles and work well together to ensure that children are well cared for. All policies and procedures are in place and work well in practice to promote good quality care. All required records are in place and stored confidentially, helping to ensure continuity of care for children. Staff are committed to improvement and development. They regularly monitor and improve the quality of their care and education as part of an accredited quality assurance scheme. The club meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection the club was required to increase resources to reflect positive images of race, culture, gender and disability. The club now has an adequate range of resources including posters and children's work reflecting positive images of different cultures and disability.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that children are provided with an area for them to rest or play quietly without disturbance.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk