Mayfield After-School Club
Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number  EY285706
Inspection date  13 June 2006
Inspector  Shirley Amanda Wilkes

Setting Address  Mayfield Preparatory School, Sutton Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2PD
Telephone number  01922 624 107
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Registered person  Mayfield Preparatory School
Type of inspection  Childcare
Type of care  Out of School care

This inspection was carried out under the provisions of Part XA of the Children Act 1989, as inserted by the Care Standards Act 2000
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?

Mayfield Out of School provision opened in 2004. It operates from the art room, Mayfield Preparatory School, Sutton Road, Walsall. The after school club serves pupils of the school.

There are currently 41 children from three to eight years on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting has procedures in place to support children with a special need, and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week during school term times. Sessions are from 15:45
until 17:45.

Four members of staff work with the children. Two members of staff are hold early years qualifications.

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

**Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean, welcoming environment, where they learn the importance of simple good health and hygiene practices through daily routines. They understand, for example, the need to wash hands before eating and after toileting to remove germs. All documentation which supports children's health is in place, for example accident and medication records.

Children's dietary needs are met well in partnership with parents. All needs are fully discussed and recorded and staff are fully aware of children's individual needs. Snacks provided offer healthy choices to the children that include fruit, bread sticks and crackers. This helps children develop a positive attitude to healthy eating.

Children have opportunities to take part in a good range of physical activities. Children enjoy a balanced range of activities indoors and outdoors. They take part in physical activities using the playground and playing fields attached to the school. Children enjoy playing with the balls, hoops and joining in organised games. This encourages the children to develop control of their bodies and contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

**Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean and well organised environment where risks to children are limited. Daily risk assessments are carried out which ensure all areas and equipment are safe. Good arrival and collection procedures are in place. However, visitors to the group are not recorded.

The staff ensure that the children are supervised at all times. Children's well-being and their understanding of keeping themselves safe is well promoted. There are clear procedures for outdoor play that are fully understood by the children, for example, responding to a whistle and returning to a member of staff. However, fire drills are not practised regularly within the out of school club to ensure all children are familiar with the procedures. This compromises children's safety.

Staff have a clear understanding of child protection issues and the correct procedures to follow for reporting concerns. As a result of this children's welfare is safeguarded.

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Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and secure in a welcoming environment. They enjoy their time at the out of school club where, they can choose from a good and varied range of games and art and craft activities. The children's confidence and self-esteem is built upon by them being able to make their own decisions about their play.

Children are well supported by the staff who encourage children's independence. The staff spend time listening and talking to the children. Positive relationships with adults and children are developed, promoting their self-esteem. They spend time well and show good concentration as they complete their chosen activities for example, painting.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are recognised as individuals and their self-esteem is well promoted by the staff offering lots of praise and encouragement. Children play together showing concern for others, taking turns and sharing equipment. Clear behaviour boundaries are in place. Children are developing a good understanding of the wider world, the local community and it's diversity through play resources and planned activities which reflect positive images.

Although there are no children attending the setting at the moment with learning difficulties or disabilities, staff have an appropriate understanding of how they can provide suitable care and ensure inclusion for all.

Good relationships with parents are promoted by them being able to access information about how the club is run and details of what the club has to offer. There is good communication between staff and parents. Children's details are recorded and staff are available to speak to parents daily, this ensures the needs of the children are well met.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

All policies and procedures are in place to promote the well-being of the children. Staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Staff organise space well to promote children's self-confidence and help them operate independently in the environment.

There are clear systems in place for the recording of accidents and medication administered. All consent forms are in place, and are signed by parents.

Registration procedures are effective to ensure that all children are accounted for in order to keep them safe. A staff register is also maintained. The use of staff time is
good ensuring children’s health, safety and enjoyment of the out of school club. The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

**Improvements since the last inspection**
At the last inspection actions were raised to ensure that at least half of the staff were qualified. There are now two members of staff who hold childcare qualifications. They were also required to ensure that they stayed within their conditions of registration and to have all documents readily available for inspection. The out of school club now only admits children within the age range for whom it is registered. All documents are readily available for inspection.

**Complaints since the last inspection**
There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration. 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 a record is maintained of visitors to the setting
- ensure emergency evacuation is practised with the children on a regular basis to ensure all children are aware of the procedures.

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

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