



Whizz Kids

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	305436
Inspection date	17 May 2006
Inspector	Sue Anslow
Setting Address	Cranberry Lane School, Cranberry Lane, Alsager, Stoke-on-Trent, ST7 2LE
Telephone number	01270 883383
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Registered person	Kirsten Forster & Susan Stanway
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?

Whizz Kids at Cranberry Lane is one of four out of school clubs run by Susan Stanway and Kirsten Forster. It opened in 1997 and operates from two rooms in a mobile unit in the grounds of Cranberry Lane School in Alsager. A maximum of 48 children may attend the out of school club at any one time. The club is open each weekday from 07.45 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 18.00 during term time and 07.45 to 18.00 during school holidays. Children have the use of the school field and two adjacent playgrounds for outdoor play.

There are currently 72 children aged from four to 11 years on roll. All children attend

Cranberry Lane infant or junior school. The out of school club supports children with special needs.

The out of school club employs five staff, all of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are protected from infection because staff follow comprehensive procedures and routines with regard to health, hygiene and cleanliness. Children use the toilets independently and are aware of the need to wash their hands and why. Accidents and any illnesses are managed well and recorded appropriately.

Children enjoy a range of physical activities, which promote a healthy lifestyle. They play outside in the school grounds at every opportunity, enjoying team games using a range of sports equipment or practising their physical dexterity on the climbing and balancing equipment. Indoors the chairs and tables are moved to provide space for circle or team games and large cushions and bean bags provide rest and relaxation when children are tired. Children's hand-eye coordination is promoted through the use of various toys and equipment and they thoroughly enjoy activities such as paper weaving and making pom-pom's out of knitting wool.

Children are nourished with freshly prepared snacks at each session. Fresh fruit and salad items encourage healthy eating and children learn how this benefits a healthy lifestyle. Diluted juice is provided at snack times and a jug of water is available for the children to help themselves to throughout the session. Children attending the holiday club are asked to provide their own packed lunch and parents are advised about the storage of anything perishable.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled and relaxed in this safe, clean environment. Rooms are decorated with children's art work and the entrance hall notice boards inform children and parents of the club rules, policies, activities and staffing rota. Tables and chairs are arranged in different ways to enhance freedom of movement around the rooms and a home corner and separate computer room allows children safe space to pursue their chosen activities. A wide range of safe and suitable toys and play equipment enhance children's interest and enjoyment and easy access to low shelves and boxes promotes their independence.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. The entrance door is kept locked during every session and staff carry two-way radios when accompanying groups of children outside. All appliances including fire fighting equipment is checked annually. However, emergency evacuation procedures are not practised often

enough to ensure everyone is familiar with procedures, which compromises children's safety in this area. The children's welfare is safeguarded because staff have sound knowledge of child protection procedures and are aware of their roles and responsibilities.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy the friendly, informal atmosphere of the group, chatting with friends and classmates and relaxing before and after the school day. Children divide into two rooms on arrival but move between the rooms later on as they choose what activities they want to do. Children relate well to adults and their peers, chatting round the table as they participate in a craft activity, play pool or dress the dolls in the home corner. Staff encourage children's learning by asking appropriate questions about colour, shape and number, and the children's self-confidence and self-esteem is promoted through praise and rewards for achievements and helpfulness.

Outdoor play in the school grounds is a favourite activity, with children playing together or separately, enjoying the fresh air and exercise which promotes their physical and social development. Children's independence and responsibility is promoted well and they regularly discuss with their key workers their ideas for future activities or different snacks to eat. The older children recently organised a talent show, encouraging all ages to take part and they are currently making flags and posters for the World Cup.

During the school holidays children enjoy trips out to local play facilities and places of interest. This promotes the children's awareness of the world around us and often leads to extended activities back at the club house. For example a forthcoming village 'safari' event has created interest in making animal costumes, treasure hunts, face painting and a trip to Trentham Monkey Forest.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel a sense of belonging and develop trusting relationships with staff because they are treated with equal concern and have their individual needs met well. Children learn something of the wider community we live in through a variety of play experiences and resources, which reflect people who are different from themselves. An Indian member of staff readily discusses her culture and traditions with the children and they enjoy dressing in Indian costumes, having their hands painted and tasting some Indian food. Children's welfare is promoted because staff work closely with parents on any issue of concern or particular requirements and children with special needs are welcomed and integrated into the group.

Children behave well and play harmoniously together. Staff encourage children to take responsibility for their actions and a code of conduct is displayed in the entrance hall. Children's behaviour, achievements and kindness to others is valued and

rewarded, which promotes their self-confidence and self-esteem. Effective working relationships with parents result in a good understanding of children's individual needs and staff take time to discuss with parents any situation that may be affecting their child. Children's care is supported well through written agreements and appropriate consent forms. Files containing the club's policies and procedures are available in the entrance hall for parents to read at any time. Programmes of events for each holiday club are distributed well in advance and books containing photographs and newspaper cuttings of children enjoying various activities and outings, provide interest and information for children and parents alike.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children relax and have fun in this friendly, lively, learning environment. Accessible toys and equipment allow children to choose what they want to play with and ample space indoors and outside allows for a variety of activities to take place at the same time. Children's health, safety and welfare is managed well because staff ensure records and other documentation are kept correctly and up to date.

Children benefit from being cared for by staff who are qualified and experienced in childcare. Staff work well together as a team, are aware of their roles and responsibilities and demonstrate a good knowledge of the older children's needs and interests. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

The setting was asked to re-evaluate the snack time routine, to make it into a more sociable occasion. Children now enjoy sitting round the table together chatting with their friends after the school day and enjoying the refreshments, before starting any activities.

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):

- practise emergency evacuation procedures regularly to ensure every adult and child is familiar with the process.

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