



## **The Club at Mapledurham**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY219035
<b>Inspection date</b>	02 October 2006
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<b>Registered person</b>	The Club Company
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Crèche

## 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](http://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?

The Club at Mapledurham registered in September 2001 and the holiday club registered to run within the crèche in July 2006. It is run as a service to members of the club to provide childcare whilst they are using club facilities. It operates from Mapledurham Golf and Health Club, in Mapledurham, near Caversham and takes place in a dedicated room within the main building. A maximum of 26 children may attend the setting at any one time. The crèche is open from 09.00 to 14.30 on Monday, Tuesday and Friday and 09.00 to 15.00 Wednesday and Thursday and 09.00 to 13.30 on Saturday and Sunday during term time. It is open 09.00 to 16.00 Monday to Friday and 09.00 to 13.30 on Saturday and Sunday during school holidays. The holiday club is open Monday to Friday for all school holidays from 13.00 to 16.00. The setting is closed for some public holidays. There is no access to an outdoor play area.

There are currently in excess of 300 children on roll and children have a choice of attending flexible times, which are pre-booked. The setting serves children from the local and wider

community. The setting supports children with special needs and English as an additional language. The setting employs 10 staff, of whom seven hold suitable childcare qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children are protected from infection and are well taken care of if they have an accident or become ill because staff follow appropriate policies and procedures and have a good knowledge and understanding of first aid. Children who have a contagious illness, do not attend the setting. First aid boxes are centrally situated and staff deal with and record accidents and incidents promptly, ensuring parents are informed and sign these records. Children access a clean, well-ventilated environment, which is maintained at a suitable temperature. Children access clean toys and equipment because staff follow the cleaning rota. Babies sleep according to their individual needs and staff monitor and record these sleep patterns. They ensure children use their own comforters and follow parental guidance as to their preference to what the child uses to sleep in, for example a low rocker or a buggy. Babies are held when they have their bottle feeds supporting their needs to feel secure. Staff record all details of their milk feeds on relevant documentation, in consultation with parents.

Although the setting does not provide food, staff have a good awareness of children's allergies and dietary requirements. Children are able to consume cold meals in the setting during a lunchtime period if this corresponds with their booked session. Staff provide suitable equipment to support children with this, such as a table cloth and highchairs. Some children bring in drinks and children can access water if they request this. However, drinks are not easily accessible, are not offered regularly and children are unable to access independently. Children have opportunities to develop some physical skills through dancing to videos and music, crawling through tunnels and accessing hoops and beanbags.

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

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming, secure and safe indoor environment, which has a suitable purpose. The setting is bright, light and child-friendly where staff display the children's creative work attractively. Staff carry out daily health and safety checks and maintain and implement documentation well. The layout supports children's needs to move around and play comfortably and safely, with a separate area for the younger babies to remain safe. Secure entrance procedures safeguard children's welfare whilst on the premises. Only staff open the entrance door when persons use the bell, identification is checked and all visitors record their visit in the book. Children access and use equipment, which is clean, age appropriate and suitable for their stage of development. Staff carry out daily checks for broken pieces and choke hazards and discard immediately. Staff actively assess potential hazards and reduce risks well. They provide a separate area for babies, and children use suitable restraints when having their nappy changed on the pull down surface. Children benefit from the setting having cupboard locks, dangerous substances stored out of their reach and fire exits cleared to keep them safe and

out of harm's way. Although fire exits are clearly identified and emergency evacuation procedures are displayed in the room, children and staff do not practise emergency evacuation procedures regularly.

Children stay safe as staff ensure they are supervised at all times and are never left unattended by persons not vetted. Children are protected because staff understand their role and responsibilities with regard to child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary. There is good documentation available to support staff and this safeguards children's welfare.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children settle, are comfortable and become happy in the setting because staff meet and greet them and their parents on arrival and are attentive and supportive to help them accomplish their chosen activities. Staff encourage children to participate and engage their interests well. They praise and encourage children's efforts and achievements, helping to build up their confidence and self-esteem. Children are involved in a range of planned activities and spontaneous events, which engage their interest, are fun, and support some of their development and learning. For example, fixing together the train track and moving the trains along it, completing jigsaw puzzles and pushing the balls down the 'ball run' game, whilst watching the ball's journey.

Children acquire some new knowledge and skills, increasing some language, maths, imaginative and creative development. They participate in the drawing activity and some children are using pencils with increasing control, pretend to 'chop' the fruit and vegetables in the imaginative area and 'serve' this to their friends and make patterns using the large shape pieces in a board. Children make positive relationships and relate well with the staff and with other children. They respond to adults who are interested in what they do and say and often invite them into their play. Staff meet children's individual needs well as they have a good knowledge of early childhood curriculum and are aware of children's preferred activities. Babies access toys and equipment, which are self-rewarding, bright and colourful. Staff stimulate the babies well and support them to reach, bang and press the toys.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for by staff who work with parents to meet their individual needs and ensure they are fully in the life of the setting during their time in the crèche. Staff ensure they follow babies' routines and record all details of sleep patterns, nappy changes and milk intake. This helps the babies feel settled and secure. Children feel a sense of belonging as staff spend time with them, listen and value their ideas and conversations, are able to access a suitable place to store their belongings and staff have some awareness of their family context, which they talk about with them. Children receive sufficient and appropriate support from staff who are attentive and caring to their needs. This helps them feel valued and respected. The setting has good provision in place to support children with special needs. Children become aware of the wider

society and foster an understanding through following celebrations and festivals, including Diwali, Halloween, Bonfire night, Christmas and Easter. They benefit from activities and resources, which help them value diversity, such as jigsaws, dressing up clothes, both gender dolls and bright posters displayed around the room.

Children learn to respond to appropriate expectations for their behaviour and staff are consistent when managing boundaries. They praise and encourage good behaviour and methods to manage behaviour are age appropriate, suitable for the child's stage of development and are discussed with parents. Their behaviour is good and they adapt to the constant changes of different children arriving and leaving, sharing the toys well. Staff build up good relationships with parents, ensuring they are aware of all necessary detail about the children and each child's nurturing needs. This helps to ensure children receive consistent care. The parents' notice board and the club's newsletter keep parents informed and details of the regulator are displayed, although some detail is inaccurate. Staff demonstrate they have a good understanding of the new complaints regulations.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Staff have a clear sense of purpose, have suitable childcare knowledge and some hold suitable qualifications, including the manager and deputy supervisors. Staff are aware of their roles and duties and work well as a team. Staff deployment supports children's needs as they continually alter due to the frequent changes to children's attendance patterns and lengths of stay. Staff are flexible and have a commitment to continually improve the provision and welcome management support for them to attend training. This contributes to children's enjoyment, achievement and ability to take an active part in the setting. The room layout positively supports the needs for the wide range of children attending, and staff's vigilance contributes to their contentment.

Written policies and procedures support staff to promote children's health, safety and ability to make a positive contribution. All legally required documentation is in place, well maintained and stored securely. Children and staff's attendance times are accurately recorded and ratios are always maintained. This supports children's welfare. The setting displays its certificate of registration during operational hours. The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, the setting had one recommendation to develop strategies to ensure that evacuation procedures are practised and re-enforced regularly. Although staff have a good understanding of the procedures and fire exits are clearly marked and easy to access, they do

not practise the evacuation process with the children regularly. This does not sufficiently support the children's knowledge of evacuation procedures.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards. 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 children can access water and their own drinks more regularly and independently
- make sure current emergency evacuation procedures are practised more regularly, ensuring all staff and children have opportunities to experience.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)