



Woodcote After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY293545
Inspection date	12 July 2005
Inspector	Christine Cutts
Setting Address	Woodcote CP School, Reading Road, Woodcote, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 0QY
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Registered person	Woodcote After School Club
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Woodcote Primary School After School Club operates from the school hall. The club is managed by a committee. Only children that attend the school can attend the club. The club is registered for 16 children. Children attend from aged 4 years to 11 years. The club opens Monday to Friday from 13.15 to 18.00 pm during school term times. Qualified staff work in the club

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a good range of energetic physical activities that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They develop self-confidence in their physical skills as they use a good range of large and small apparatus.

Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through well-organised activities and routines. They wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating their snack. The children help protect themselves from infection as they actively take part in cleaning routines, such as washing down tables before meal times. Relevant documentation is in place, although parental acknowledgement of medication given is not recorded. All practitioners hold first aid certificates, which are regularly updated, however the first aid supplies are less well organised.

Children benefit from a healthy diet. They enjoy a cooked tea, such as hot dogs, soup or pizzas. Drinks are readily available and the staff encourage children to have drinks in the hot weather. The practitioners take account of the wishes of parents and children's individual dietary needs. Children benefit from the healthy eating policy introduced through out the school and enjoy sampling a range of fruits as snacks and with meals

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean, well-maintained environment. The good organisation of well-maintained toys and equipment means children can move around safely and freely. Children can independently access available resources, such as drawing materials, from the store cupboard and when using the wooden log maze.

Children benefit from a good range of safety measures, which include risk assessments, fire extinguishers and a fully secure outdoor play area. They develop a good awareness of safety through practising emergency evacuations and discussing the reasons for this with staff. Sensitive reminders, such as a request to use equipment appropriately, increase children's awareness of everyday safety in the setting.

Children are well protected from possible abuse or neglect. Most staff have had some training and show a good understanding of the procedure to follow with any concerns. They are fully aware of the types of abuse and signs to look for.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children show a sense of belonging, they are confident and at ease in a familiar environment as all the children attend the school in which the club is based. They are

actively involved in their play with age appropriate activities throughout the sessions, which meet the individual needs of the children. They very much enjoy the outside environment and the involvement of the staff in their games.

The children have a high level of independence, freely selecting equipment for themselves and taking responsibility for their personal care. The children show concern for each other and enjoy the responsibility of helping with daily routines.

The children benefit from the good relationships between themselves and the staff, whose encouragement and praise enable the children to try new things, building their confidence and self-esteem. Children and adults support and encourage the younger children to have a go, giving the children the time to grasp the idea of the timing of the games, being patient and offering praise for the effort and joining in the children's joy when they achieve.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children are actively involved in the organisation and routines of the group, they have many opportunities to make their own choices, while being encouraged to join in and play games together. Staff support the children well, so that all children are included in all activities.

Children are valued as individuals. They develop a positive attitude to others and gain a good understanding about the wider world and community through celebrating festivals, tasting food from a variety of cultures and having access to a range of play resources, which show positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.

The individual needs of all children who attend are well met. The setting has effective arrangements to care for children with special educational needs. Children behave well. They begin to understand right and wrong through consistent boundaries, which older children help to set. Staff encourage children to resolve their own differences, which help them learn to take turns and share.

Partnership with parents and carers is good, with good exchanges of information at pick up times, such as school messages, tea, events and behaviour. A good range of information about the provision are made available to parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The organisation of space resources and staff are effective in fully supporting the children who attend, however not all staff have early years qualifications or play worker training.

Enthusiastic and knowledgeable staff, consistently promotes the children's well being, offering a calm and happy environment where very good relationships, between adults and children are evident.

The staff demonstrate a sound knowledge and understanding of the national standards for out of school provision with a wide range of documentation available, however not all staff are familiar with the administration and management of the club.

The staff value parents contributions and work closely with parents and other agencies to meet the special needs of the children. Staff demonstrate a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities and appropriate policies and procedures in place that work in practice to keep children healthy and safeguard their welfare.

Overall, the needs of the children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 satisfactory. 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 sufficient staff have relevant play worker training.
- ensure the first aid box meets current recommendations.
- establish a system for recording parental acknowledgement of any medication given.

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