



Hurley Before and After School Group

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	200633
Inspection date	23 February 2007
Inspector	Shami Kumar
Setting Address	Heanley Lane, Hurley, Atherstone, Warwickshire, CV9 2HY
Telephone number	01827 872207
E-mail	
Registered person	Hurley Before and 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?

Hurley Birds Out of School club was registered in 1998. It operates from within Hurley Primary School in the village of Hurley near Atherstone. The club has use of a defined area outside the classrooms and has access to the reception classroom, the school hall, toilets, and the outdoor playground and playing fields. The club serves the children who attend the school.

The club is registered to care for a maximum of 16 children aged from three to 11 years, and currently has 16 children on roll. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The club opens Monday to Friday, and sessions are from 07:30 to 08:45 and 15:15 to 18:00 term time only.

There are two members of staff who regularly work with the children, with three additional members of staff who provide cover. All staff, with the exception of one, hold a recognised childcare qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children stay healthy because staff follow clear hygiene routines. For example, they wash their hands before preparing any food and wipe the tables with anti-bacterial spray before and after snack time. Children learn the importance of personal hygiene through daily routines. They know that they wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. Staff remind children about hand washing and discuss the reasons of maintaining good hygiene practices. They are protected from the spread of infection with a written sickness policy by which the parents are informed that children will not be cared for when they have any infectious illness. The children's welfare is protected as staff ensure that their first aid knowledge is kept up to date and that the first aid box is readily to hand. There are systems in place for recording any accident and medication to be administered and there are arrangements for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.

Children's individual health and dietary needs are recorded before they start at the club and staff are careful to ensure that these are met. Children's health is promoted by having a range of snack foods that encourage healthy eating and provide nutrition. For example, by having fruit and a range of savoury foods. Children are offered drinks and they can independently access water which ensures that they are comfortable and well hydrated.

Children make satisfactory progress in their physical development because they are provided with plenty of opportunities for physical play through indoor and outdoor activities. This helps the children develop confidence to enjoy moving with control using their bodies in various ways. For example, they join in organised games such as basket ball, football, using skipping ropes and the parachute.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a warm and welcoming environment. They are able to move around independently and have access to all types of play. Staff are deployed to ensure that all areas are supervised and daily checks are carried out to ensure no hazards are accessible to children. If children are to be collected by a different person they inform staff beforehand and if necessary identification is asked for. Risk assessments are in place but are minimal and are not reviewed regularly which puts children at risk of harm.

Children learn to protect themselves by practising fire drills to ensure that they know where to go to stay safe and fire and electrical equipment is regularly tested. Children are further protected as the staff talk to them about why they should not run inside the setting, and why they should not get too boisterous.

There is a range of equipment, furniture, toys and play materials available for the children. Children benefit because the resources and play materials are cleaned and checked regularly for safety and hygiene. Staff have undertaken child protection training and are confident that

they would be able to recognise any signs or symptoms of abuse. They know the correct action to take to protect a child if they have concerns. The written child protection statement is shared with parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled. Their sociable and caring relationships with staff increases their sense of trust and helps them develop a sense of belonging. They have access to a range of resources that are suitable to their age and stage of development. Staff are keen on expanding and developing children's learning and interests. Staff encourage the children to talk about their day at school and what they have been doing at home. For example, children freely talk about their favourite lesson being physical education and about having a birthday cake with a ballerina on the top.

An appropriate balance between adult and child-led activities allows children to play and learn at their own pace. Children talk happily about their play, make decisions about what they want to do and are confident to ask for what they need. They independently help themselves to resources and games and organise themselves appropriately. Children particularly enjoy feeding the birds and dig a garden to plant seeds and flowers. They have formed good relationships with their peers and work well as part of a group. They particularly enjoy sitting and drawing pictures and playing games on the play station. Staff support the children with their homework and there are times that they feel important as they help to prepare snacks. They are keen to participate in activities and select tasks independently.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. The children learn about equality through their play and have access to a range of toys, activities and resources regardless of age, gender or disability. Children are learning to respect diversity through spontaneous discussion. For example, children discuss different festivals and talk about why people are different. They have access to books which reflect diversity and children are able to participate in activities. Children enjoy and relax at the club and treat it as their own club. There are suitable arrangements to support those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. For example, there is a special educational needs co-ordinator in place and a written statement is available.

The children are well settled, happy, confident, sociable and secure. Children play harmoniously, for example, a group of children sit and draw pictures. Children behave well and respond positively to the staff who ensure that behaviour is managed with the use of praise and explanation. The children are aware of boundaries and they share toys, take turns and develop friendly relationships with staff and their peer group. They are listened to and staff value what they say and take time in supporting them. For example they play games with them and help them with their homework.

Partnership with parents is established and frequent discussions take place to ensure that the children are cared for in accordance with their wishes. Policies and procedures are shared with parents and children's records are regularly updated to ensure their needs are being met. Parents receive written information about the setting before their child starts and informed about relevant issues. The children are pro-active in informing parents of what activities they have been participating in, which they welcome.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by experienced staff who enjoy being with them. They benefit because they are cared for in a setting where space and resources are organised to ensure they have opportunities to take part in all types of play. Clear space is provided for imaginative play as well as creative activities. The majority of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications and regularly attend training to ensure their practice and knowledge is kept up to date. However, children's safety is compromised as vetting procedures are not fully robust in order to protect children.

The children benefit from consistent routines and varied activities inside and outside of the setting. They are at ease and confident to initiate their own play. There are well written policies and procedures in place for the safe and efficient management of the setting, and clear records are kept of children's arrival and departure. Documentation is easily accessible and stored securely to ensure confidentiality. The committee supports the staff in their work, but do not play a very active role in the setting.

Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the club was required to provide a written risk assessment which identifies potential hazards both inside and outside. They were asked to ensure that records were securely stored and accidents and medication records to be countersigned by parents. They were also required to have a suitable contingency plans to support the requirements of having a minimum of two staff available at all times.

Since the last inspection all records are stored in the office in a confidential manner and accidents and medication recording is now countersigned by parents. The club now has three additional qualified members of staff who provide cover to support the requirement of having a minimum of two staff present at all times. Children are appropriately protected as these aspects have been addressed. However, the setting was asked to conduct a risk assessment of the premises and these were done, but they were minimal and are not relevant to the club so this remains as a further recommendation.

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 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):

- conduct a comprehensive risk assessment which is reviewed regularly
- ensure robust procedures for vetting any new committee members are in place.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk