



## Farlea Kids Club (St. Lukes)

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	218324
<b>Inspection date</b>	01 March 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Jasvinder Kaur
<b>Setting Address</b>	St. Lukes C of E Primary School, New Penkridge Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1HN
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<b>Registered person</b>	Farlea Childcare Ltd
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day 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](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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Farlea Kids Club (St. Lukes) opened in 1998. It operates from the main hall and a large room within St. Lukes School, Cannock. A maximum of 32 children may attend the club at any one time. The club is open each weekday for 50 weeks of the year. During school terms the sessions are from 07.30 to 08.50 and from 15.10 to 18.00. During school holidays the sessions are from 07.45 to 18.00. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 57 children from four to under 12 years on roll. Children come from the local community. The club currently supports a number of children with disabilities.

The club employs four members of staff. Of these one member of staff holds appropriate early years qualifications and two are working towards level 3 qualifications. The club receives support from the local authority early years department.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy physical exercise and learn about the importance of activity in a healthy lifestyle as they join in free play and organised activities in the playground and in the hall. They have access to a range of toys such as hoops, skipping rope, ball games, etc. A selection of drinks including fresh drinking water is readily available throughout the session. Children confidently select healthy options of food such as fresh fruits and toast. However, food is not served hygienically. For example, children help themselves to cut fruit using their fingers. Although they wash their hands before the fruit is served, being allowed to go off and play and then come back to have more fruit does not promote hygienic practice. This means children's health is not promoted.

In general, however, children do learn the importance of personal hygiene through satisfactory organisation of activities and routines. Good hand washing facilities are provided. Children are encouraged to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. Accident records are well maintained and shared with parents. Staff are well aware of the importance of keeping a record of medicines administered to children. There is an effective procedure in place when children are ill to protect other children from the spread of infection. This contributes to keep children healthy.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally safe. Staff carry out regular risk assessment and take positive steps within the setting to prevent accidents, and some precautions are taken. However, due to the poor security of the premises, children are able, without supervision, to leave the building. This compromises children's safety. There is a system of recording attendance of children, staff and visitors. Children develop an awareness of safety measures through emergency evacuation drills on a regular basis. Safety rules are highlighted in setting's rules.

Children benefit from a welcoming and friendly environment as staff make a suitable use of available space, which is well-organised. The children can move freely and safely within the setting. They enjoy easy access to appropriate resources, enabling them to be independent when selecting activities. The resources are safe, stimulating and provide sufficient challenge in a bright and interesting environment.

Some of the staff members including the manager demonstrate a sound understanding of what to do in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff and the implications this may have for their practice. They are aware of their responsibility to report any concerns to the Local Safeguarding Children Board. However, other staff are insecure in their understanding of implementing appropriate procedures. As a consequence, this may put children at risk.

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

The provision is good.

Children develop their imagination and independence by selecting resources and activities of their choice and initiating their own play. There is a good range of well maintained resources which are used appropriately to interest children and to aid learning. Many children take an active part in group games or construction activities, while others prefer to occupy themselves with quieter play such as arts and crafts or chatting with friends in a quiet corner. Children share ideas and use their skills to make collages for the purpose of themed pieces or a display.

Children are confident and have good relationships with adults and peers. They take part in group activities and play together cooperatively. They interact with staff positively and happily engage them in conversation. For instance children enjoy playing football and soft ball games with a member of staff and discuss the rules of the games. Staff put the emphasis on free play so that children can enjoy themselves and can relax. Staff offer assistance appropriately and are effectively involved in children's play.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The children have a sense of belonging. They feel secure, as the staff are aware of their individual needs. They enjoy being with and talking to adults and other children. They develop a satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the wider world as they celebrate different festivals. However, they have access to only limited resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice. Children with learning difficulties are appropriately supported as the staff have a good understanding of addressing children's special needs in consultation with parents and other professionals.

Children appear to be happy, confident and well mannered in response to the clear boundaries set by staff. They are praised for good behaviour and are encouraged to play together, share and take turns with toys and equipment. The children play an active role in attending meetings to discuss menus and planning of activities. The staff respond positively to their interests. Their self-esteem is promoted as they take part in competitions to raise funds for the club which are used to buy new resources. Behaviour management is discussed with parents. Staff work well in partnership with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. Information is shared with parents on a regular basis through verbal communication and well documented policies. This creates a welcoming environment for parents and children.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from an organised and comfortable environment. The space is appropriately organised to enable children to have quiet, restful periods as well as more active and energetic play. The setting has suitable arrangements to protect children and the staff have undertaken relevant vetting procedures. The staff are encouraged to attend relevant courses to update their knowledge and understanding of childcare issues. However, some staff have not attended

such courses and are consequently lacking in knowledge of child protection procedures. This means children's welfare is not fully promoted. Most staff hold first aid certificates which are regularly updated.

The setting has written policies and procedures in place to support children's care, play and welfare. All documents are stored appropriately to ensure confidentiality and are readily accessible to parents and for inspection. Additional documentation is made available to parents relating to information about the service provided.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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

At the previous inspection the provider agreed to ensure that the written procedure is consistent regarding the safe collection of children. Passwords have now been provided to parents and records are kept of other authorised collectors. It was also recommended to obtain written consent from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment. The staff have now modified the application forms to obtain this written consent. This means children's needs are met regarding these issues.

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

Since April 2004, 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):

- ensure good hygiene practices are in place regarding serving food
- take positive steps to promote safety within the setting to ensure the premises are secure and children are not able to leave them unsupervised
- develop staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues

- ensure that children have an appropriate range of resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

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