

# WACI (Welton Afterschool Club Initiative)

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY266268
<b>Inspection date</b>	13 September 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Jan Healy
<b>Setting Address</b>	Welton Primary School, Radstock Road, Midsomer Norton, Bath, BA3 2AG
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<b>Registered person</b>	WACI (Welton Afterschool Club Initiative)
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](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?

WACI (Welton After School Club Initiative) registered in 2003. The club operates from a mobile classroom at the rear of Welton Primary School in Midsomer Norton, Somerset. It is open to Welton Primary School pupils only from 15:15 to 18:00 during term times. The club is registered to care for a maximum of 24 children at any one time. Currently there are 52 children on roll who attend on a part-time basis. There are four staff, three of whom hold a relevant qualification.

The club is owned and managed by a committee of parents, who employ a club manager and play staff to organise and run the sessions.

The club uses the building, which is used during the day by the preschool playgroup. There is a main playroom and a smaller messy play area/kitchen. The club also has the use of the school play ground, playing field and an enclosed play space adjacent to the building.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The staff provide a sound standard of hygiene to help prevent the spread of cross infection. The staff clean the surfaces before the preparation of food, using an anti-bacterial agent. The children are reminded to wash their hands before snack and after using the bathroom and have the benefit of individual drying towels.

The staff hold a current first aid certificate and are confident to deal with an accident. All accidents are recorded and are shared with the parents, so they are aware of any injury to their child. The staff request prior parental permission to administer medication to the children if required, with details being recorded and retained, to help protect the children's good health. Sick children are not permitted into the group, to protect the good health of their friends. A child who becomes unwell during their stay, are swiftly reunited with their parents.

The children enjoy a snack which is healthy and nutritious, whilst sat together, making for a sociable occasion. They have the opportunity to further their table manners and to chat to each other about events that are important to them, as this is encouraged by the staff. The children take joy in aiding the staff to prepare the snacks, for example, heating soup, buttering bread and making toast and sandwiches. The staff are aware of the importance to store food appropriately and to ensure food is thoroughly heated, as they are proactive in seeking training in food hygiene. The children's health is protected, as written details are retained about any allergies or intolerances they have, so plans are made to cater for their need.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The children have access to a playroom, which is shared with a pre-school. However, the group have the advantage of their own boxes of toys which the children are able to self-select, helping to enhance their independence. The room is bright and airy and remains at a comfortable temperature, so the children are able to play in contentment. There is an outdoor play area, which consists of a 'den' where the children engage in pretend play. Display boards enable the children to mount their artwork and collages, making for a child friendly environment.

The staff provide the children with a suitable range of safe and well-maintained equipment and resources. Furniture, such as tables and chairs, are age appropriate and suit the children's physical height; therefore, they sit in comfort during activities and snack. A booster seat and step allows the younger children to use the bathroom without adult supervision, which helps to further their independence. There is a balanced range of toys, which promote the children's learning and development, so they are actively learning whilst having fun.

The staff take precautions to ensure the children remain safe whilst in their care. For example, by checking the smoke detectors are in working order, so they are quickly informed of impending danger. The children practise an emergency evacuation procedure, so they are familiar with the routine to leave the premises swiftly in the event of a fire. However, one exit route is cluttered which may cause an obstruction. There is an effective arrangement for the arrival and departure of children, to ensure they leave with an appropriate adult.

The staff have enough knowledge about child protection issues, to ensure the children in their care remain free from harm. They are able to detail the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect, keeping written records about existing injuries if required. They are aware of their responsibility to inform the appropriate authority if a concern is identified.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

The playroom is set up with enough toys upon arrival, allowing the children to freely choose an activity of their choice. The staff and children share a warm and affectionate relationship, with the children feeling confident to approach the staff for support and comfort. During play, the staff sit at the children's physical level, making for a pleasant atmosphere. The children are listened to carefully, which helps to boost their self-esteem, as they feel that their news is important. They enjoy playing with dolls, dressing them in various clothes and involving them in their pretend play. The children interlock jigsaws and couple trains which they place on a track. Basic planning is in place, with consideration given to the age and stage of development the children have reached.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Resources are available which reflect positive images of diversity, helping the children to recognise that there are similarities and differences. The staff teach the children that although everyone is different, all are just as important. Both the boys and the girls have equal access to all the resources available, which are within their easy reach. Positive attitudes are encouraged and developed between the children, aiding them to feel valued and good about themselves.

The staff currently care for children who have a learning difficulty. They work in partnership with the parents to plan a suitable range of play activities, to aid their progress. Consideration is given to the accessibility of the playroom with the fitting of a ramp, handle rails in the bathroom and furniture being re-arranged to allow for extra space. The staff encourage the children's awareness of disability through the provision of a range of resources including dolls, books and jigsaws.

The staff involve the children in the discussion of 'rules' so their opinion is given careful consideration, which enables the children to feel that their thoughts are valued; also, the children are aware of and abide by the boundaries, as they have agreed to its implementation. A 'spot' chart is in place, which is used to show the parents how well the children are behaving. If an incident occurs it is recorded and the parents are informed, so a solution can be found to the problem. The children behave well, as they enjoy their stay and look forward to having free time to play with their friends after school.

The staff and parents share a friendly and professional relationship, exchanging relevant information to help promote the children's learning and development. They are kept informed about the procedure to follow in the event of wishing to raise a concern, to prevent a delay in a dispute being resolved. The parents have the benefit of having easy access to all the groups policies and procedures, so they are aware of the provisions care.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. The person in charge holds a relevant qualification and has the experience and expertise to care for young children. She has sound knowledge of the National Standards and the ability to meet them. She provides warm and consistent care and ensures the children are protected from adults who are not vetted. There are sufficient procedures in place for the appointing of new staff, who are properly inducted so the children receive consistent care.

However, the beginning of the session is slightly disorganised, as there is no agreed method for the children's arrival, which may have a detrimental effect with regard to their safety. An attendance register is taken each day but there are no details about the times of the children's arrival and no details about the staff or visitors arrival or departure. This creates difficulty in the checking of historical records. Children's records are stored confidentially, to protect their personal details.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, the staff were requested to ensure the parents evidenced the accident record with their signature. This ensures the parents are kept informed about any injury to their child. They were also required to ensure at least half the staff held a relevant qualification, which is now in place, benefiting the group, due to the staffs expertise.

## **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):

- make sure exits remain clear
- improve the organisation of the children's arrival
- keep a record of the times of the children, staff and visitors arrival and departure

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)