

# Kidzone

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY288789
<b>Inspection date</b>	05 November 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Sue Anslow
<b>Setting Address</b>	Mobile Building, Winnington Park CP School, Firdale Road, Winnington, Northwich, CW8 4AZ
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<b>Registered person</b>	Little Angels (Cheshire) Ltd
<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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Kidzone Out of School Club is one of two settings run by the same provider. It opened in 2004 and operates from two rooms in a mobile building in the grounds of Winnington Park CP School in Northwich. A maximum of 32 children may attend the out of school club at any one time. The club opens each weekday during term time from 07.45 to 08.50 and 15.00 to 18.00, and each weekday during school holidays from 08.30 to 18.00. Children have access to an enclosed outside play area around their building and further use of the extensive school grounds.

There are currently 83 children aged from three-years-old upwards on roll and all sessions are available to children from local schools in the area. The out of school club employs three permanent members of staff, with two further staff available if required. Four members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications and one is working towards a qualification.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

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

The provision is good.

Children develop an awareness of the benefits of keeping healthy through effective hygiene practices, such as washing hands after using the toilet and before eating. Handy signs around the sink areas remind children to wash their hands and tables are cleaned with anti bacterial spray before serving food. All staff hold current first aid and food hygiene certificates and there is a written policy in place detailing the procedures for managing sick children, accidents and medication. Children thoroughly enjoy outdoor activities which support and help their physical skills as well as contributing to a healthy lifestyle. They benefit from good access to their own garden area and enjoy liberal use of the school grounds, including an exciting adventure area, for a variety of games, sports and climbing activities. Indoors, children move freely between the two large rooms, which can be cleared for energetic physical activities, such as dancing and go-kart races. Comfortable furniture is available for resting, if required.

Children are well nourished with freshly prepared snacks during every session. They choose from a variety of food, such as cereals, toast, crackers, digestive biscuits or malt loaf, along with fresh fruit which is provided at every session. Healthy snacks, together with posters promoting 'five-a-day' fruits and vegetables, help children understand how healthy eating promotes healthy lifestyles. Children bring packed lunches during school holidays and advice is given about storage. Drinks of water and juice are provided with all snacks and children can help themselves to a drink at any time during the play session, ensuring they never get thirsty. Individual dietary needs are respected, in consultation with parents, and these are maintained to ensure children stay healthy.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children enjoy the generous play space available for all their needs, both indoors and outside. They use the two large rooms for a variety of activities and can move freely outside to the enclosed

garden area around the building. Additionally, children make full use of the school playground with its well equipped adventure play area. Children confidently select play equipment from the wide range available, all of which is appropriate for their age and stage of development. Excellent use is made of different play materials and textures, such as cardboard boxes, clay, textiles and newspapers, which enhance their interest and enjoyment. The walls of the classrooms are decorated with a variety of children's art and craft work, coloured posters and lots of photographs of the various activities and outings enjoyed by the children. These all give a very welcoming feel and sense of belonging for the children at the setting. Premises and equipment are safe and hygienic due to the regular checking and cleaning by staff. This promotes children's health and safety at all times.

Children's safety and security is extremely well protected by staff who are vigilant at all times and complete regular risk assessments to prevent accidents and keep children safe. Staff collect children from school during term time and always ensure there is a member of staff in each play area, so children can enjoy the freedom to move outside whenever they want during the play session. Written emergency evacuation procedures are displayed in the building and children are familiar with the fire drill routine, as they practise it regularly. Children learn to keep

themselves safe through these regular practises plus reminders from staff to 'sit properly on the chairs in case you topple over'. Children are protected from possible harm or abuse by staff's sound knowledge of safeguarding procedures. Parents are informed of the club's responsibilities through written information in the policy file and any significant concerns would be processed correctly.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children are extremely happy, settled and relaxed in the out of school club, enjoying each other's company and close relationships with staff. They can relax or be active according to their needs and interests. They are motivated, eager and actively participate in the many activities and experiences offered to them. There is a very good range of resources which are used well to interest children and develop their learning. Children are confident and relate well to each other, as they suggest designs for their firework pictures, hold up a template for their friends to copy on to paper or work side by side in the 'beauty salon'.

Children are extremely well supported by staff who encourage them to take part in activities which offer interest, enjoyment and extend their play experiences. They thoroughly enjoy creating pictures and objects from a wide variety of materials, such as cardboard boxes and tubes, malleable clay and dough or with the large and small construction pieces. Children's self-esteem is promoted by staff who listen and talk to them, answering questions or offering suggestions. Staff are more than happy to join in and 'have their hair done' in the beauty salon or explain the rules of the hangman game. Children develop their large and small physical skills through various games in the outdoor play areas, especially using the equipment in the adventure play area, as well as craft activities, puzzles and construction kits. They enjoy computer games, table top football and pencil drawing, all of which enhance their concentration and hand-eye coordination.

Children thoroughly enjoy 'their own' club, where they are able to choose what they want to play with and have the freedom to play together or separately. Staff often sit with children at snack time to discuss ideas for activities and outings for the following weeks and a rough plan of the current week's activities are displayed in the entrance hall. Discussions around the activity tables encourage children to listen to each other's ideas and enlarge on them or relate their own experiences. For example, deciding which was the best bonfire and firework display the children had attended at the weekend and showing their friends how to make patterns in the paint, to look like fireworks exploding in the sky. A good balance of quiet and active play is promoted during each session, with a comfortable settee and cushions for relaxing and a wide range of sports equipment for the more energetic. Children are confident, independent and responsible, as they get involved in deciding what happens in their club. They are able to relax, chat and have fun together in the out of school club after a busy school day or enjoy the opportunity to meet up again during the holidays.

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

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs are met well because staff liaise closely with parents, observe children's characters and interests, and provide appropriate activities and resources. Children with learning difficulties are welcome to attend the out of school club and are included in all activities. Children learn something of the world around them through celebrating different

festivals and looking at pictures of people from other countries and people with disabilities. They thoroughly enjoy making flags from different countries and trying out apple bobbing for Halloween. Children behave well and enjoy good relationships with the staff and each other. They develop self-esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions and make decisions. They develop a positive attitude to others as they learn to share and take turns, helping each other with computer games or picture patterns. Staff praise and encourage efforts, achievements and helpfulness and are on hand to prevent any confrontations or difficulties.

The relaxed, informal environment encourages parents and staff to exchange information everyday, ensuring continuity of care between the setting and home. Relevant information, contact details and most written consents are obtained from parents prior to their child starting, which ensures that staff have what they need to support the care of the children. However, written permission for taking photographs of children has not been obtained, which compromises children's safety in this area. A file containing the club's policies and procedures is available at all times for parents to read and relevant information is displayed on notice boards near the door.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children's care is managed appropriately by staff who work well together as a team. An experienced supervisor leads each session and all staff are checked and inducted appropriately, which enhances the safety and well-being of the children. Staff update their knowledge and skills on a regular basis by accessing short courses and workshops through Sure Start. Staff discuss and plan activities with the children to ensure they are happy and having lots of fun outside school hours.

The range of activities, and outings in the holidays, provide children with a wide variety of things to do in the relaxed and informal environment. They enjoy ample play space, both indoors and outside, and a balance of quiet and active play which meet all needs. Most records are kept up to date as required, enhancing the general care and management of the children. Confidentiality is respected and maintained and parents are consulted appropriately, ensuring continuity of care at all times. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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

The provider agreed to record any medication given to children and ensure parents sign each entry in the records. The provider also agreed to record the attendance of staff and any visitors to the group. Both these recommendations have been completed satisfactorily, thus, enhancing children's safety.

### **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 complaint 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):

- obtain written permission from parents for taking and displaying photographs of children attending the group.

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)