



Time Out Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	511336
Inspection date	20 September 2005
Inspector	Alison Large
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Registered person	Time Out Childcare
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Time Out Childcare opened in 1998. It operates from 2 classrooms in Locks Heath Junior School in the Locks Heath area of Hampshire. A maximum of 34 children may attend the club at any one time. The group opens each weekday during school term times and school holidays. Sessions are from 07:30 until 08:50 and 15:00 until 18:00 daily and from 07:30 until 18:00 daily during school holidays. All children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

Children attend for a variety of sessions. Seven staff work with the children some of which have early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health within the club is supported well by staff who have a secure knowledge of the club's health and hygiene procedures. Children are independent in self-care skills and with the adult support and guidance given, children gain a good understanding of hygiene. Children are able to access drinking water throughout the session and understand the importance of taking regular drinks to maintain their health. Children have an understanding of healthy eating as they make choices from a variety of healthy options at tea time, such as fruit, vegetables, toast and sandwiches. They benefit from a varied menu, including a range of hot and cold options, which comply with any special dietary requirements, ensuring their individual needs are met.

Children are able to enjoy outside play on a daily basis and learn the importance of physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. They have opportunities to practice and develop co-ordination as they play tennis, football and parachute games. The large playing field available to the club gives children the opportunity to run and play which contributes to their good health and physical development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are secure and confident in a well organised environment. They have access to two rooms and an outside area. Children's safety is well maintained, staff have a good awareness of safety and carry out daily risk assessments of the site. Staff have a good understanding of how to achieve a balance between freedom and setting safe limits and how to involve children effectively in organising their environment. Children's safety is well promoted when using the outside play area, they are listed on a separate recording sheet to enable staff to monitor who is outside. This allows children to learn a sense of safety and how to protect themselves from harm.

Children use an abundance of high quality equipment appropriate to their various stages of development and ages, which are kept clean and well maintained. Staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and know how to implement policies ensuring children are protected from harm. However the record of visitors to and from the club is not kept in sufficient detail and made readily available to sign when visiting the club which impacts on staff's ability to fully safeguard children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children thrive and enjoy their time at the club. They arrive happily and are eager to participate. Close and caring relationships with the staff increase the children's sense

of trust and help them develop a strong sense of self. Children are captivated by an extensive range of stimulating resources and activities. They are able to initiate and lead their own play and enjoy this time at the end of the school day when they can relax or be active in accordance with their needs and interests.

Staff interact well with the children, join in their games and are interested in what they have to say, this ensures children are well supported. Children settle well into the club and are confident in their routine, they are able to represent their own ideas, for example through role play and these are valued and encouraged by staff. Children are enthusiastic and self assured in the club's vibrant environment. There is an excellent range of resources which are used well to interest the children. Children are friendly and show care and concern for others.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is outstanding.

All children are welcomed and play a full part in the club because staff value and respect their individuality and their relationships with the staff and each other. Behaviour is excellent, staff support the children in sharing and turn taking. They talk to them regularly to ensure they understand the behaviour boundaries, which enables children to take responsibility for their own behaviour. Children with special needs are welcomed at the club and are able to integrate well. Children develop self esteem and confidence as they are able to make choices, staff take time to listen to the children and are interested in what they say and do.

An excellent partnership with parents contributes significantly to the child's well-being at the club. Parent's views about their child's needs are actively sought when the child starts at the club and on a regular basis throughout their time there. Parents are made welcome when collecting their child and information is shared daily. Children are able to access resources reflecting diversity which helps give them an understanding of the wider world.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are able to move around freely and feel at ease in the well organised environment. The staff's good teamwork makes sure they work together well to promote the children's health, safety and enjoyment. Indoor and outdoor play space is planned to maximise the play opportunities of the children. Children are fully occupied and engaged with the many resources and activities available during their session which enables them to take an active part in the club. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

All the relevant documentation is in place and is stored confidentially. Staff ensure that children and staff attending each session are recorded, however the lack of vigilance in recording visitors to the club and their contact details means children's

well being is put at risk.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the club were asked to update their Child Protection policy, record the times of arrival and departure of the children and to keep a record of the children who are using the outside area. The recommendations have been addressed by the staff and have all been met, this has improved the children's care and well being.

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 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):

- ensure a record of all visitors to the club is readily available and completed, including contact details.

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