



Careclub Gayton

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY294055
Inspection date	28 September 2005
Inspector	Jean Evelyn Thomas
Setting Address	Gayton Primary School, Gayton Road, Heswall, Wirral, CH60 8PZ
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Registered person	Careclub Ltd
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?

The Care Club, Gayton, out of school care was registered in October 2005. The club operates from a mobile classroom in the grounds of Gayton Primary School, Wirral. There are enclosed outdoor facilities. The group serves the children attending the school.

The club opens five days a week during school term times only. Sessions are from 08.00 until 09.00 and 15.25 until 17.30. The club is registered to care for a maximum of 32 children from 4 to 8 years and there are 46 on roll. Older children attend. Children attend for a variety of sessions a week. The club supports children with

special needs.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health within the setting is fully supported by staff that have sound knowledge of health and hygiene procedures. Children are independent in their self-care skills. They learn simple good hygiene practices and follow the example of staff, for example by washing and drying their hands after the craft activity and before eating. The hand washing facilities within the toilets provide children with products, soap dispensers and paper towels, to wash their hands thoroughly to help stop germs spreading. The sick child policy is shared with parents and its purpose is to protect children from the spread of infection. When children become sick the parent is contacted and arrangements are made to collect the child.

Children increase their understanding of nutritional foods as they select breakfast or after school snacks from a range of healthy options such as breadsticks, pitta bread, dairy products and fruit. Children help themselves to easily accessible drinking water throughout the session. They efficiently follow the procedure of putting their disposable beaker into a bin after use to ensure it cannot be reused by others. Children know this is to prevent the spread of germs.

Children enjoy outdoor physical activities for most of the year, weather permitting. They benefit from different areas on the school site to engage in physical play.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a warm, welcoming and secure environment. They confidently move around the club rooms and help themselves to a range of easily accessible, age appropriate resources and activities. Children have freedom of movement with ample space available where they relax in comfort or take part in more active, energetic play. Children are involved in a good balance of activities using available equipment and resources that contributes to their all-round development.

Staff minimise all hazards through the completion of a thorough safety check before the session commences. This means children are able to move around safely and independently. Staff vigilantly monitor the security device fitted to the entrance door to ensure children do not leave the premises unsupervised. The staff maintain a good level of supervision and carry 'walkie talkies' on their person to have contact with each other at all times for the safety of the children.

Staff have secure knowledge of child protection issues. They have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities to protect children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and contented. They settle well and enjoy their time at the out of school club. The children's enthusiasm is reflected in the fact that they consider the service as their 'club'. They are motivated and self-assured in their play, making their own choices in the activities they pursue. The varied and stimulating range of activities sustains the children's concentration and interest throughout the session. For example, using a selection of resources to make door hangers involving designing the pattern, cutting and gluing.

Children listen to instruction and enthusiastically join in board games, playing with a friend or in small groups supported by an adult.

Children contribute to the planning of activities. There is a suggestion book which is frequently used by the children to put forward ideas. These range from topics for focused activities to requests for specific pieces of equipment. The children's suggestion generated the healthy life style topic.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a mutually respectful relationship with the staff and each other. The support and interaction from staff contributes to the good levels of children's self-esteem. Children's understanding of equality is promoted through activities that encourage equal play, for example children of all ages play in an uninhibited manner in the role-play area. Their awareness of diversity and culture is stimulated as they explore their own and other cultures and traditions, incorporating craft, art work and food tasting. Staff access additional resources such as musical instruments and dressing-up clothes from the lending service to enhance the children's learning and enjoyment of these specific activities.

The children's behaviour is excellent. They respond to the staff's effective strategies such as praise, acknowledging the children's achievements, showing interest in what the children are doing and listening to children. The older children learn patience and demonstrate a caring attitude towards the needs of the younger and new members of the group. The children have recently formed their own anti-bullying group, which is a forum for children to discuss amongst themselves any issues. Staff recognise that their support may be needed. However, this is primarily child led.

Children's individual needs are well met through staff working in partnership with parents. Information is obtained from parents to ensure that appropriate care is given. Information is shared verbally on a daily basis. Documents are on display to keep parents fully informed about the club. Staff make parents welcome, they collect their children directly from the play rooms. This gives parents the opportunity to see what their children are doing.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The organisation uses effective recruitment procedures to ensure suitable persons are employed to work with the children. Although amendments to this procedure have been made since the change in legislation in October 2005, not all aspects have been taken into consideration. Staff are undertaking training to achieve the required childcare qualifications. An action plan is in place to ensure staff complete the training within the agreed target date. Staff have completed first aid training, however the certificates do not identify that the level of training meets National Standards. Good team work makes sure all staff work well together to promote children's health, enjoyment and achievement.

Children are given support and attention from staff as the child-staff ratios are met. Their individual needs are known and all children are included. Children are cared for in a well equipped environment. The organisation of the rooms offers children both quiet and more physical activities suitable after a day at school.

The documents are maintained as required which contributes to children's health, safety and well being. Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report. 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 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):

- review the amended complaints and vetting procedures to ensure they fully comply with the revised criteria
- make sure the first aid training which staff have completed meets the level required by the National Standards.

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