

# Time Out Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number** 511336  
**Inspection date** 25/06/2009  
**Inspector** Stephanie Matthews

**Setting address** Locksheath Junior School, Warsash Road, Southampton,  
Hampshire, SO31 9NZ  
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**Type of setting** Childcare on non-domestic premises

## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

## Description of the setting

Time Out Childcare opened in 1998. It operates from two 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. There are 64 children on the register and 2 of these are Early Years Foundation Stage. The group opens each weekday during school term times. The holiday club now operates on another site. Sessions are from 07:30 until 08:50 and 15:00 until 18:00 daily. All children have access to an outdoor play area. There is access for those with disabilities and the clubs are fully inclusive. Provision is very flexible and children attend for a variety of sessions. Seven staff work with the children, some of whom have early years or other relevant qualifications. Two staff have NVQ level 3 qualifications and two others are working towards this level. Two others have level 2 and another is about to complete this course. One member of staff has a BTEC qualification. All members of staff are trained in paediatric first aid.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall effectiveness is good. Time Out provides good experiences for children in both the breakfast and after school clubs. It is fully inclusive and caters well for the Early Years Foundation Stage children and the pupils from the infant and junior schools that attend. Parents express a high level of satisfaction with provision. The setting has made many improvements since the previous inspection particularly in the quality of its staffing. It is led and managed well and has a good capacity to improve.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- ensure that children are not able to access the kitchen area unless closely supervised by an adult
- provide access to computers during the breakfast club and after school

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

The owner of the setting is very experienced in managing out of school clubs and she has appointed effective members of staff. Together the owner and the manager provide good and efficient leadership and management. They ensure that provision at the clubs is very flexible and inclusive, for example by providing for children with learning difficulties and disabilities. Pupils can attend after school activities and then the club. A child who is late for some reason will still be offered breakfast in the morning session. Hours of opening meet the needs of parents well and they are enthusiastic about the service provided. Many children also attend the holiday club that now takes place on another site. Safeguarding and health and safety procedures are managed well and children who need to take medication are

monitored very carefully. Risk assessment is thorough and the setting conducts its own fire drills. All safeguarding procedures are fully in place.

Improvement since the previous inspection has been good. All issues raised then have been addressed and members of staff are now more highly qualified. New resources have been purchased. Relations with the Infant and Junior Schools that the children come from are excellent and the setting works closely with them to ensure the security and well-being of the children. The clubs will benefit from the planned outdoor shelter that will be shared with the infant school.

The management have not completed a formal self- evaluation and there has not been a recent formal canvassing of parents' opinions through a questionnaire. Review is informal and involves sharing experience and procedures with the other local clubs run by the same owner. Parents have lots of informal opportunities to talk to staff and the children are also encouraged to express their views about the way that the clubs should develop. Planning is good and the clubs provide well for Early Years Foundation Stage Children.

The management of the clubs has a real focus on providing a quality experience for children that provides convenient childcare for parents. It has a good track record of development and capacity for improvement is good.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

The quality of provision is good. The setting provides a wide range of activities in a calm, harmonious and purposeful atmosphere. Activities are well planned to ensure that children can develop all areas of learning in a relaxed and play orientated environment. Breakfast is served in a way that enables children to feel at home and they are expected to wash up their own cups and plates. Older children play with younger ones and card and board games, particularly chess are popular. In the afternoon both indoor and outdoor activities are available. Children were observed enjoying play station games and watching television but computers are not available at present. The site has excellent facilities for outdoor play and children are well supervised at all times when they are using the extensive school grounds. Games involving a parachute involved lots of children and the majority engaged in some healthy outdoor exercise during the session. Behaviour is good and children cooperate very well with adults and other children. They say that they really enjoy attending the clubs.

There is a good focus on health and hygiene. Children are encouraged to wash their hands frequently and those who have breakfast are expected to clean their teeth afterwards. Meals and snacks are prepared very carefully but children only occasionally help in this preparation. Breakfast cereals, toast and yoghurt are served in the morning with the occasional treat of muffins or croissants. Fruit and vegetables are served at teatime and children are able to drink lots of water or squash and particularly encouraged to in hot weather. The kitchen area is close to where children play and this requires careful monitoring to ensure their safety.

The clubs are involved in celebrating festivals such as Diwali and Chinese New

Year. Children clearly enjoy craft and artwork, for example in making cards and gifts for Mothers Day. They feel that they are very much part of the local community and the high quality of care ensures that they are confident and able to use their time in the club well.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### Overall effectiveness

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	2
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

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## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met