



## School's Out

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY282995
<b>Inspection date</b>	21 November 2005
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<b>Setting Address</b>	Heyes Lane Infant School, Crofton Avenue, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 6BZ
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<b>Registered person</b>	Elmscot Day Nursery 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?

School's Out, Heyes Lane opened in 2004. It operates from the school hall in Heyes Lane Infant School in Timperley. A maximum of 60 children may attend the out of school club at any one time. The club is open Monday to Friday from 08:00 to 09:00 and 15:00 to 18:00 during term time.

There are currently 45 children aged from 3 to 10 years on roll. The club serves children from the infants and junior section of the school.

The out of school club employs six staff. Three of the staff, including the manager

hold appropriate early years qualifications. One member of the staff is working towards a qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through well planned daily routines. Their clear understanding of why they must wash hands before eating and after using the toilet reduces the risk of infections and cross contamination. Staff clean tables with an antibacterial solution before snack and most of the toys and equipment are clean. However, some of the dolls and cushions are dirty and staff only clean toys, furnishings and other equipment when they notice it is required. This means the system for cleaning toys, furnishings and other equipment is not established.

Children independently access fresh drinking water from a cooler and enjoy a range of healthy drinks, for example, fresh orange and apple juice. They benefit from a range of healthy snacks as they independently access a fruit box and select and make choices between apples, bananas and pears. All snacks comply with special dietary requirements to ensure children remain healthy.

Children have a good awareness of space and move confidently with control and co-ordination around the room. They competently use a range of small equipment, for example, scissors, pencils and rollers. They enjoy some outdoor physical activity in the summer such as football and activities with hoops. This contributes to developing children's physical skills and capabilities.

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

The provision is good.

Children's risk of accidental injury is minimised in the setting which has good safety precautions such as risk assessments and fire safety drills.

Children use a range of safe, developmentally appropriate resources. These are of good quality and staff have effective routines in place to enable children to use them safely, which in turn supports their play and learning.

Staff explain safe practices such as why they must be careful when walking down the steps to the toilet, so that children do not fall and hurt themselves. This helps children take responsibility for keeping themselves safe.

All the required procedures are in place to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded, for example, the group has a secure understanding of child protection in line with Area Child Protection Procedures.

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

The provision is good.

Children are at ease and quickly settle into the organised environment. They are happy and confident in their relationship with the practitioners and each other. Children are interested in the activities available and enjoy using resources, such as play dough, books, bead threading, construction and role play. They use their imagination as they pretend figures are other objects and take turns and share when using toys, resources and equipment.

All children are interested and motivated in the activities provided, which allows children to use their imagination and have as much choice as possible. Staff listen to and value what children say. They talk with them about what they are doing, for example, when constructing a castle. They interact appropriately and sensitively to promote children's self esteem and extend the children's learning. Children play for extended lengths of time with the play dough and practitioners respond to children's choice to continue the activity. This develops children's concentration, creativity and imagination.

Activities are broadly planned on a weekly basis and adapted to the needs of the children. Children have opportunities to experience a good range of activities and quiet times when they can rest or be active. However, written planning is categorised into broad areas such as construction and supervised free play and lacks detail. There is no record of previous activities undertaken or experienced by the children. In addition, children's opportunities to experience physical activities is limited to the summer when they play football and hoop activities. There are no planned physical activities to promote children's physical skill all year round and this limits children's experience of developing their physical capabilities and promoting their wellbeing.

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

The provision is good.

Children are greeted and welcomed into the club by staff who know them well. They enjoy mutually respectful relationships with staff and each other. Children develop self esteem and confidence as they respond to boundaries and routines through explanations and club rules which are clearly displayed on the notice board. Children are encouraged to be kind and helpful and clear up activities at the end of the session. Staff interact appropriately and display good distraction techniques and talk to children in a positive and sensitive manner which children respond to. Children are involved in making ground rules and are reminded about them and make decisions on whether they should be changed. Children are included in helping to put wish lists together for new activities and resources. Practitioners ensure that the resources represent the children who attend, as well as individuals from the wider community. This helps develop a positive attitude to others.

Parents are happy with the care provided and the professional manner of staff. There are good systems in place to talk to parents and establish the individual needs of the children through consent forms and discussion. This positive approach to working

with parents contributes to the continuity in the children's care.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The environment is well organised, staff know their roles and responsibilities and effectively implement routines to give a broad range of experiences. Children benefit from well deployed staff who consistently interact with them and give children support and encouragement which makes them feel secure and content.

Most policies are in place and used effectively to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. There is a complaints procedure and a record log in place, however, it is not readily available in the club.

Information is verbally shared with parents to keep them well informed about the service provided and their child's activities. This contributes to the continuity in the children's care.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Since the last Inspection the club has improved the range of books available to meet the developmental needs of younger children aged 5 to 8 years and improved the procedure to inform parents of the child protection procedures. All of which ensure children's safety and welfare is maintained.

## **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):

- establish a rota system for cleaning toys, furnishings and other equipment
- extend the range of planned activities and play opportunities to develop children's physical skills. Consider further developing the planning overall
- provide and maintain a complaints record which is readily available.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)