



Games Week

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	319281
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Inspector	Jim Bostock
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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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Games Week Out of school opened some years ago and operates from communal halls, classrooms and supporting facilities within the Royal Grammar School site in Jesmond, Newcastle. It serves children aged from five to eight years of age from the local and wider community, who are attending the sports and coaching activities provided by the Games Week scheme. Children up to the age of 15 years attend. The number of children on roll varies as children attend on a flexible basis. There have been 371 children attending over the five weeks of operation at the time of inspection.

The setting opens five days a week for two weeks of the school Easter holidays and for the first five weeks of the school summer holidays. Sessions are from 08.30 until 09.30 and from 15.30 until 16.30. Required staffing ratios are maintained and half of the staff have appropriate qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children bring their own food and the provision only supplies water and diluted squash drinks. They are encouraged to stay hydrated by staff as this is important in a sports play scheme. Although there is discussion with parents about health related issues and allergies, there is no discussion with parents or children about healthy eating policies. Mealtimes are social occasions for children with lots of discussion about daily events. Children benefit from the communication between staff and parents about food and drink issues with the service fully respecting any requests from parents. There is a tuck shop which sells sweets to children. This does not promote healthy eating.

Children's health and hygiene is promoted as the children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and after toileting. There are individual towels and soap dispensers available for children to reduce the risk of cross infection. Accidents and medicine administered are recorded appropriately, however, the system for sharing information with parents does not always include signing of these records to clearly show that parents have been informed. The medicine storage system is not fully secure which presents some risk to children. There is always at least one member of staff present with first aid training which protects children well.

Children's physical development is well promoted through the sports on offer. These include athletics, touch rugby, trampolining, gymnastics and swimming which they thoroughly enjoy. They use both indoor and outdoor facilities.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment which is light and in good decorative order. The equipment is well maintained. The service promotes child safety within the building by encouraging children to be aware of danger and keeping themselves safe, as well as taking precautions to reduce the risk to children. However, the system for storing medicine is not fully effective in protecting children. Children's safety is promoted within the building by the undertaking of regular risk assessments, the results of which are acted upon. Close supervision of children is used by the staff to help prevent accidents and keep children safe, apart from children's use of the toilet area which is out of sight of the main play areas. The number of staff available each session helps protect children. The service has good written policies covering a wide range of safety issues and staff are fully aware of

these issues which helps protect children well. The service has fire safety procedures and has made provision for a safe and efficient evacuation, including good written plans, however, there are no practise evacuations to promote children's and staff's understanding of these procedures. The arrival and collection of children is generally well planned and keeps them safe.

The service has identified a member of staff as the child protection coordinator who has had training in child protection. Some staff have had child protection training outside the setting and, although there are good policies and procedures in place to protect children from abuse, all staff are not fully aware of their existence.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have good relationships with staff. They interact confidently with staff who show an understanding of their individual needs. Children are comforted if upset and feel secure and comfortable in the setting. They are encouraged to be independent with support and guidance in selecting and using the toys and equipment effectively. Expressive and enthusiastic language is used by the staff when interacting with the children, who respond with enthusiasm and interest. Children's abilities and confidence are well developed through effective use of the wide selection of resources available. For instance, children learn to play games in easy stages. In rugby they practise passing moves and learn the rules of the game before playing a game. The staff have a good understanding of the development of children putting into practise skills and methods gained from experience and relevant training. Children's self-esteem is developed through the staff valuing each child's contribution. Children benefit from a planned activity programme which encourages their interest and progress. They say they enjoy the sports activities and all achieve well no matter what their ability. They play organised sports and indoor games. Table tennis, pool, chess and board games are favourite choices and they also enjoy colouring in, relaxing and watching television and chatting amongst themselves. Parents are fully involved in their children's experiences with the regular updates.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for as individuals with differences being acknowledged and enjoyed. They learn to be respectful and interact positively as staff are good role models and treat children with respect. Children develop self-confidence because they receive lots of praise and encouragement. They are eager to participate in activities and respond very well to the staff. They learn to share, relate well to each other and behave very well. For example, they readily line up when moving between areas and help each other in the activities.

Relationships with parents are promoted and developed well. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress and details of their physical care on a daily basis. They provide written information for the service about their children, and also provide

written permissions for administering medicine and for emergency treatment to ensure children are protected. However, the information is limited and does not include cultural issues. Parent's access to the written policies and procedures is also not well supported. One parent commented that staff are very approachable, that care is very good and the activities are stimulating for children.

There are few activities, toys and resources related to multicultural play. This does not help children develop their knowledge of and positive attitudes to difference. The service admits all children and there is a mix of children of different ethnic origins. Children with learning difficulties or disabilities attend sessions and are well supported. Staff are knowledgeable about children's individual needs which helps their involvement and inclusion in the daily events. All children mix freely and participate in all activities which helps them develop respect for each other.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The service provides clear routines and organised activities which give children confidence in the setting. Children benefit from the relevant qualifications and experience of staff which is mainly related to sports and teaching qualifications. Staff have an induction before the scheme begins and have regular briefings to help them identify any needs children may have so that they can effectively meet these needs. However, staff have limited knowledge of the National Standards on which the care of children is based. The well planned daily routine, and well resourced provision allows children to experience a wide variety of stimulating and interesting activities. Children are organised into groups with dedicated staff for each group which helps provide for their needs.

The documentation meets minimum requirements and is stored securely. The register of attendance is not a clear and accurate record of children's and staff's attendance. There are written policies and procedures for all required issues, however, they need updating particularly in relation to complaints. The service has current public liability insurance cover so that children are well protected. The certificate is displayed on the wall as is required. The provision ensures staff are properly vetted to ensure children are protected.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provision was asked to inform Ofsted about the staff working in the setting. This is no longer a requirement, except for the manager and registered person, however, the provision did inform Ofsted of the relevant details so that children are protected. Further recommendations involved improving information for parents and staff about child protection, improving parent's access to policies and procedures and developing the range of play materials that promote positive images of gender, ethnicity, culture and disability. The provision has more information about

child protection available but this is not fully shared with staff and parents. Parents are informed about the policies and procedures but do not have easy access to them. There has been little development of play materials that represent diversity.

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 satisfactory. 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):

- improve fire safety by carrying out regular emergency evacuations
- ensure medicines are stored safely
- ensure there is a clear record of attendance of children and staff
- extend the range of play materials to promote positive images of culture, ethnicity, gender and disability
- ensure that all parents have easy access to all written policies and procedures of the setting
- improve staff knowledge and understanding of child protection issues.

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