

Simon de Senlis Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 220149

Inspection date 26 June 2008

Inspector Kristin Hatherly

Setting Address Simon de Senlis Lower School, Hilldrop Road, Northampton,
Northamptonshire, NN4 0PH

Telephone number 01604 702636

E-mail

Registered person Simon de Senlis Out of School Club

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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Simon de Senlis Out of School Club opened in 1994 and is registered to care for a maximum of 24 children between three years and eight years old. There are currently 64 children up to eight years on roll. It operates from premises within Simon de Senlis School in East Hunsbury, Northampton and is run by a committee. The club serves the local area.

The out of school club opens five days a week all year round with the exception of bank holidays and a week at Christmas. Sessions are from 8:00 to 9:00 and from 15:00 to 18:00 during term time and from 8:00 to 18:00 during school holidays. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

A total of six staff work with the children. Four members of staff have an early years qualification and one member of staff is currently on a training programme.

The club is a member of the Kids' Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have regular access to a grassed play area and the school playground where they benefit from fresh air and exercise. They play on the large equipment and team games such as football which helps them develop their large muscle skills and co-ordination.

Children gain an awareness of the role of healthy eating in developing their good health and growth as they are provided with a variety of nutritious well-balanced snacks. Effective measures are in place to ensure the health of children who have special dietary or medical needs is not compromised. Children have access to fresh drinking water at all times. As a result children are thoroughly hydrated and comfortable.

Children are developing good hygiene practices as they wash their hands after visiting the toilet and before snacks. Children receive appropriate care in the event of minor accidents or illness as there is a first aid kit readily accessible and one member of staff has a first aid qualification. Information is obtained from parents and shared with staff in order that children receive appropriate care. However, the administration of medication forms are not completed in sufficient detail.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in portacabins on the school grounds where their safety is promoted well. Space and resources are organised to allow children to move around comfortably and participate in a wide range of activities. Children choose what to play with from a wide range of good quality toys and interesting activities such as board games, craft and construction, that meets their play and development needs well. Suitable measures are in place to ensure children are safe and to prevent accidents. Children are well-supervised both in and outside because the provision uses walkie talkies to ensure that sufficient staff are deployed effectively both inside and out. Fire drills are practised regularly and recorded appropriately.

Children are protected from harm or neglect because staff have a good understanding and knowledge of the signs and symptoms of child abuse and the correct procedure to follow if they are concerned about a child. The required procedures and documents are in place to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time in the out-of-school club. They participate in a wide range of stimulating games and activities that meet their social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs well. They express themselves creatively as they engage in craft activities using a range of media such as glue, paint and collage material. Children share and take turns appropriately and play together well.

Children benefit from warm, friendly interaction with staff who know them well and spend most of their time playing with and talking to the children. Children are valued by staff who show interest in their games and activities and interact with the children very well.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy activities and resources which promote a positive view of the wider world such as dressing up, books, dolls and home corner cooking utensils. They enjoy topics looking at different countries, their food, music and fashion. This increases their awareness of diversity and their understanding of others. Children are valued and respected as individuals and are fully included in the life of the setting.

The club understands their obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act and is proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken to support children with identified needs. As a result children receive appropriate support.

Children know what is expected of them and respond well to staff. They enjoy warm interaction with staff who play with them, have good opportunities to make choices and receive regular praise and support. As a result, children are well behaved.

The partnership with parents and carers is satisfactory. Children benefit from the effective partnership between parents and staff which includes parents being involved in the committee. Information is obtained from parents that helps staff provide appropriate care and they in turn are provided with a variety of information on the parents' notice board and regular feedback about the children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the effective organisation of the space and resources both indoors and in the outdoor area so that they can make choices and develop their ideas as they play. Children's welfare, care and safety are promoted because staff have undergone appropriate vetting procedures to ensure they are suitable to work with children. Furniture, space and resources are organised to allow children to participate comfortably in active or quiet play. The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. Resources and equipment are organised to promote children's safety, welfare and development. Staff continue to update their training to improve and develop their work with the children. The quality of care is enhanced because staff attend further training.

Generally, records, policies and procedures required for the safe and efficient management of the club are well-maintained and therefore promote the children's welfare. Staff and children's attendance is recorded daily and emergency medical treatment or advice is obtained. However, the hours of attendance of staff is not recorded nor are visitors always recorded. Overall the needs of the children are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, the provider was asked to ensure children are properly supervised and active steps taken to prevent accidents. The outside area now has secure fencing and staff use walkie talkies to ensure that they can contact each other quickly when the outside area is being used. They were further asked to ensure that all records relating to day care are readily accessible and available for inspection particularly the written child protection statement. All records, policies and procedures were available at inspection.

The provider was asked to ensure that arrangements for managing the club promote the safety, welfare and development of the children. The provision now has secure fencing in order that the children can play outside safely. They were further asked to make sure the complaints procedure includes details of the regulator. The full address and telephone number of the regulator is now in the complaints procedure.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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):

- ensure administration of medication book is completed appropriately
- ensure hours of attendance of staff are recorded
- ensure visitors are recorded appropriately.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education* (HMI ref no 2599) which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk