



Grundy Park Creche

Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | 486531 |
| Inspection date | 01 July 2005 |
| Inspector | Kerry Davey |
| Setting Address | Grundy Park Leisure Centre, Windmill Lane, Cheshunt, Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire, EN8 9AJ |
| Telephone number | 01992 623345 |
| E-mail | |
| Registered person | Borough of Broxbourne |
| Type of inspection | Childcare |
| Type of care | Crèche |

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?

Grundy Park Crèche opened in 1993 and operates from a converted area of Grundy Park Leisure Centre in Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. A maximum of 24 children under 8 years may attend the setting at any one time. The crèche is open 6 days a week throughout the year from 09:20 to 12:20 Monday to Saturday and 17:00 to 20:00 on Monday to Thursday. Children may attend for a variety of sessions for up to two hours at a time.

There are currently 110 children aged from 6 weeks to under 8 years on roll. Children come from the local area. The crèche supports children with special educational

needs, and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The crèche employs 9 staff, 7 of whom, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy physical activities that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. They develop self confidence in their physical skills as they use 'ride-on' and 'push-along' toys and baby walkers.

Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through well-planned daily routines. For example they wash their hands after using the toilet. Appropriate procedures such as, staff wearing disposable gloves for nappy changing sustain high levels of hygiene and help prevent the spread of infection. The children are protected from infection because the practitioners are well informed about children's health care matters. All related documentation is in place. Most staff hold first aid certificates which are regularly updated.

Children benefit from a healthy snack option. They enjoy fruit and biscuits at snack time and sit together to enjoy their snack. Staff take account of the wishes of parents.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean, safe and child centred environment. They move around the spacious areas independently and enjoy their art displays. Although the play areas are welcoming, there is limited provision for children to rest and relax comfortably.

Children's risk of accidental injury is minimised by the staff's vigilant supervision. Children are always kept safe and secure through the use of a signing in system and security gate at the entrance, risk assessments and various other safety precautions. Staff encourage children to keep themselves safe as they play however do not always give suitable explanation to help children to learn about safe practices.

Children are able to access a varied range of clean, well maintained, play resources which are organised and appropriate to the age and developmental stage of those currently attending. Resources are stimulating, fun and provide sufficient challenge.

Children are well protected because all staff have undergone the required vetting procedures, child protection training has been carried out by most staff and procedures are in place should any concerns arise

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are interested in the activities on offer. They choose independently and are gaining in confidence, asking questions and chatting with staff. Children take their own initiative in play, for example, as they ride on wheeled toys and play super-hero games. Children receive cuddles and have a strong bond with the staff members which increases their sense of well-being. They play happily and are gaining a greater awareness of each other through group snack time and story times.

Babies develop early communication skills as they attract the attention of staff who respond positively to their sounds during play. Children enjoy listening to stories and looking at pictures with staff. They express themselves creatively as they freely use musical instruments. Children use their imagination in play as they dress up and play in the home corner.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are warmly welcomed in the nursery. They are included and receive appropriate support from adults who enable them to sit on laps to access some resources. Staff ensure that the resources positively represent the children who attend as well as individuals from the wider community. This helps children develop a positive attitude to others. Children are well behaved and polite in response to the expectations of the staff. They take turns, and use 'please', 'thank you' and 'excuse me'.

Children benefit from a positive partnership with parents. Babies settle well and staff ensure that their routines are followed wherever possible, their sleep times are monitored and recorded regularly. There is a two way sharing of information between parents and staff to ensure that children's needs can be met and for continuity of care.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are at ease in the calm, relaxed environment. They benefit from staff's undertaking of further training which facilitates the continuing development of the provision. All policies and procedures are generally in place to allow the effective running of the crèche. However, the Special Needs and Behaviour policies do not provide sufficient detail in order to meet the requirements of the National Standards.

Staff work well together as a team and are aware of their roles and responsibilities. All staff have undergone the required checks to ensure children are protected. The appropriate ratio of adults to children is maintained and this contributes to children's well being. Good use is made of available space so that children can easily access a variety of different resources during the week.

Overall, the needs of the children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the group agreed to improve documentation and devise an equal opportunities policy which is understood by all staff, develop a special needs statement in line with current legislation, ensure that all staff undergo appropriate vetting processes and Ofsted are notified of any changes, devise a policy for uncollected children, sickness and medication and obtain parental consents for emergency medical treatment, devise a fire evacuation procedure and no smoking policy, implementing a system for induction of new staff, ensure staff and visitors are recorded and develop the information provided for parents regarding the setting.

The group also agreed to provide suitable space for children to rest and relax, develop staff's awareness of appropriate behaviour management strategies, ensure children's safety by regularly practising fire drills and ensure that children cannot access nappy creams.

All required documentation is now in place and easily accessible, policies are re-visited by staff at meetings. Staff are aware that the behaviour policy and special needs statement need further development. Staff members have completed training on behaviour management and child protection and are secure in their knowledge, the environment observed was calm and controlled. Fire drills have been carried out and recorded and nappy creams are inaccessible. Staff have undergone appropriate vetting procedures.

A comfortable rest area for children is still to be developed.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

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| 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 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 that there is provision for children to rest and relax comfortably
- develop the behaviour policy to include bullying and the special needs statement to include current legislation.

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