

Havelock After School and Holiday Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 160185

Inspection date02 March 2006InspectorHilary Turner

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Registered person London Borough of Ealing

Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Full day 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?

Havelock Holiday Club and After School Club was registered in 2001. It operates from Havelock School in Southall and is managed by The London Borough of Ealing Play Services.

Havelock Holiday Club is open to children from the community, aged from 4 years to under 12 years, during school holidays, from 08:30 to 17:45. Places are booked in advance.

The After School Club is open from 15:00 to 17:45 during school term time. Children

are collected from Three Bridges School and Diary Meadow School.

Both provisions are registered for 33 children from 4 years to under 8 years. Children use the main hall, library and the playground. There are currently 23 children on roll; of these, 8 children are under 8 years old. No children have English as an additional language or special needs.

There are three staff who work with the children and they all hold a relevant childcare qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health within the after school club is supported appropriately by staff, who have suitable knowledge of the club's health and hygiene procedures, which are effective in practice. For example, children understand why they must wash their hands before eating and they know the arrangements in place to make sure their cups are not shared with others. Appropriate documentation for recording accidents and administering medication are not in place. Accidents are recorded, but do not ensure confidentiality is maintained, and parents signatures are not obtained to each entry. All staff are trained in first aid, which ensures children are well cared for in the event of an accident. Children have opportunities to enjoy vigorous exercise, as they sometimes play in the large school playground and have daily opportunities for physical play in the school hall. For example, playing football, skipping and basket ball; this promotes their physical development.

Children's individual dietary needs are appropriately met, as staff are aware of any special dietary requirements. Children are beginning to understand the importance of healthy eating, as the setting promotes a healthy eating plan. However, children have little choices in their foods and a basic amount is provided. Drinking water is readily available and children independently help themselves.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a reasonably clean and well maintained environment. Ample space and good security arrangements mean children can move around comfortably and safely. The organisation of a suitable selection of toys and resources means that children can make independent choices in their play. Appropriate furniture and child size tables and chairs are available.

There are suitable arrangements for collecting children from different schools at the end of the day. For example, staff check pre-prepared attendance lists carefully when they meet the children.

Children's welfare is adequately protected, because the play leader has sound

knowledge and understanding of her role and responsibilities in relation to child protection. However, not all staff are fully secure in their understanding of child protection issues and the reporting procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children arrive happily at the club. They are secure within the environment, as they are familiar with the daily routines and have good relationships with staff and peers. There are sufficient toys and games for children of varying ages. However, the activities are not always well prepared for the children before they arrive; therefore the environment is unwelcoming to them. Children make choices in their play, as there is a variety of activities and resources, which are appropriate to their ages and stages of development. For example, a group of boys and girls enjoy sponge painting; they laugh and chat happily to one another as they talk about their favourite colours.

Children have access to the large school playground and indoor school hall, where they enjoy more energetic activities, such as football, skipping and team games.

Children are chatty and confident, as staff provide them with sufficient levels of support. For example, a member of staff sits with a group of children playing with dough, chatting about their day and giving encouragement as they use rolling pins and cutters to make various shapes. Children enjoy warm and caring relationships with staff and they clearly enjoy their time at the after school, as children recall previous fun activities they have been involved in.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy respectful relationships with staff and each other. They develop confidence, as they voice their opinions and make choices and decisions.

Behaviour is generally good as children know what is expected of them, because they have been involved in writing the club rules. Staff use positive strategies to reinforce appropriate behaviour, such as praising children while they sensibly wait to take their turn on the play station. Children of all abilities are welcomed into the setting. Children would, however, benefit from a wider range of resources promoting diversity, to help them develop a greater understanding about the world they live in.

Relationships with parents are friendly. Sufficient information is obtained from parents, to ensure that their children are cared for according to their parents' wishes. Adequate communication systems keep them well informed about their children's time at the club.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The registered person uses effective procedures, which ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified. The induction programme and positive team work means all staff work together well, to promote children's health and enjoyment. However, the contingency arrangements to ensure appropriate adult: child ratios are maintained are not effective in practice. This means there are times when children's safety and welfare are marginalised.

Most of the legally required documentation, which contributes to children's health and well being, is in place. However, there is no record of complaints for the recording of complaints made by parents. The club has appropriate space to allow children to move around freely and comfortably, both indoors and outside. The implementation of a key worker system means children are well supported during their time at the club. Overall, the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection, a number of recommendations were raised: ensure that details of individuals named by the parent as authorised to collect their children are recorded in writing; ensure that names, address and contact details of the staff are recorded in a confidentially appropriate place; ensure that the person in charge obtains the NVQ level 3 qualification in child care, as planned; ensure that the snack is sufficient for the numbers of children attending and takes account of children's individual dietary requirements.

The setting has now implemented systems to record the names of authorised people agreed with parents, to collect their children. Staffing details are now securely stored to maintain confidentiality, and the person in charge holds a suitable childcare qualification. Children's snacks take account of their individual dietary requirements, which staff know well, and snacks, although basic, are sufficient for the numbers of children attending.

Overall, this means children's safety and welfare have improved.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection. 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 the required records are in place for the recording of accidents, medication and complaints
- increase staff's knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and the reporting procedures
- increase the amount of resources available to children, which reflect diversity, to help them gain a greater understanding of the wider world
- make sure the contingency arrangements for staff absences are fully effective in practice to ensure the required adult :child ratios are maintained at all times.

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