

CJs Playcare (Ledger Lane)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY298936

Inspection date 13 March 2006

Inspector Maralyn Chiverton

Setting Address Ledger Lane Junior & Infant School, Ledger Lane, Wakefield,

West Yorkshire, WF1 2PH

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Registered person James Christopher Jones

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?

CJ's Playcare is privately funded and is registered to care for no more than 24 children at anyone time. It is located in school premises in Outwood on the outskirts of Wakefield. It provides care for children aged 3 to 8-years-old. The facility has the use of one free standing classroom, a shared area, the school hall and the enclosed outdoor areas. The facility is open from 08.00 to 09.00 and 15.00 to 18.00 each weekday in term time. There are 69 children on roll; all of whom attend the school, and most attending on a part-time and ad-hoc basis. The majority of staff hold a recognised childcare qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a clean and hygienic setting where resources and equipment are appropriate and well-maintained. They take responsibility for their own personal hygiene and follow simple, effective and good health and hygiene practices. For example, washing hands before snack time, after using the toilet and after playing outside. Toilets are checked regularly and rubbish is stored in bins with lids. There are effective procedures in place for the storage and administration of medication including a well stocked first aid box. There are three staff members who have a valid first aid certificate. Children are protected from infection through an effective sick child policy, which is made available to all parents. It includes requests not to bring children who are ill and to collect children if taken ill as soon as possible. This is to protect the health of others. Children's dietary needs are well met through shared information between staff and parents. The information is recorded on the child's registration form. Fresh drinking water is readily available to all children throughout the session and they are offered good opportunities to promote enjoyment of exercise and development of their physical skills through a good range of outdoor equipment. For example, skipping ropes, bats, balls and hoops. However, children are not provided with a particular area for rest and relaxation.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with a welcoming, safe and secure environment. For example, children and parents have their own entrance which has a viewing panel installed on the inside only and a secure bolt ensures no entry to unauthorised persons. A register is taken which includes the arrival and departure times of all children who attend. Children are kept safe through effective implementation of detailed policies and procedures, risk assessments and the good understanding and knowledge of play workers with regard to child protection issues. They have a good awareness of their own personal safety through understanding the reasons why and participating in regular fire drill practice. Children are provided with a satisfactory variety of equipment and resources which are safe, suitable and appropriate. However, ineffective storage and deployment limits children's accessibility with regard to safety and independence. Children have regular access to a large outdoors area, with a satisfactory variety of safe outdoor equipment. Their safety is ensured through the area being checked for safety and security before being allowed out. Staff ensure that children are well supervised at all times.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy, sociable learners. They benefit from an environment where play

workers are friendly, actively involved and supportive in their play. Play workers enjoy what they do and take personal satisfaction in their role as play workers. This ensures children's individual needs are met, their well-being promoted and allows them to proudly show of their achievements. For example, a child brought three owl finger puppets she had made at home to show to others. Children show enjoyment, interest and involvement in their play and have positive relationships with play workers and each other. This helps in promoting self-confidence and assurance. They are provided with an appropriate range of activities and resources which include creative materials, games, jigsaws and use of four computers. Children have access to a good range of books which promote positive images, are factual, as well as tell stories. They enjoy using their imagination through role play and participate well in the activities provided. However, children do not have participation in the planning of activities and experiences

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued as individuals and their individual needs are well met. They are well behaved, considerate to others and are able to share and take turns. Children are encouraged to be responsible and independent. For example, they help prepare snacks and tidy away before leaving. They have a positive attitude to others and develop a good understanding of the wider world and community through colourful displays; all of which promote positive images of the wider world and diversity. Children benefit from effective arrangements in place to care for children with special educational needs. These include working closely with parents and participation in observing and assessing individual needs. Parents are welcomed by friendly, approachable staff. They feel valued and their views and wishes respected. Parents are encouraged to share information and receive verbal feedback about how their child has spent their time at the setting. They receive good information about the provision which includes policies and procedures.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a provision where all regulatory documentation is in place. This ensures the provision runs smoothly and efficiently. Children's care, safety and welfare is well promoted through effective use of policies and procedures and the positive attitude of play workers who enjoy what they do and are fully aware of their role and responsibilities. The majority of staff have obtained a certificate in play work, while the remainder are working towards achieving a play work certificate. They are effectively deployed through a well planned rota system to ensure all areas are well supervised including the outdoors. They actively contribute and involve themselves in children's learning which provides an excellent contribution to children's good health, safety, enjoyment, achievement, and the ability to take an active part in the setting. Staff work well in partnership with parents to ensure all children's individual needs are met. Parents receive information about the provision provided through a colourful flier. They have access to a notice board which displays relevant information about

the provision. Parents are welcomed and greeted by all staff when they collect their child and are encouraged to discuss what progress their child has made.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to record. 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):

- further enhance children's health by providing an area for rest/relaxation
- further enhance children's safety by introducing a more effective system for the storage and deployment of resources to allow children to independently choose with safety and freedom
- Introduce a system which allows children to participate in the planning of activities and experiences.

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