



Hillfields Young Mothers Group Creche

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY280981
Inspection date	16 September 2005
Inspector	Sue Hill
Setting Address	Hillfields Youth Centre, Thicket Avenue, Bristol, Avon, BS16 4EH
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Registered person	Hillfields Young Mothers Group
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?

Hillfields Young Mothers Crèche is managed by a voluntary management committee, made up of parents of children at the group and members of the local community. It opened in 2004 and operates from the sports hall in Hillfields Youth Centre. It is situated in a residential area. The crèche is open Mondays and Fridays from 12:00 to 14:30 during term time only.

There are currently 60 children under 5 years on roll. The crèche is open to children of parents who attend the Young Mothers Group. The crèche employs 3 staff. There are 2 members of staff, including the manager, holding appropriate early years

qualifications. There is 1 member of staff working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean environment where they learn the importance of good hygiene and personal care. They are learning about health and hygiene through knowing they must wash their hands after messy play and clean their teeth after eating. Children's health within the setting is supported appropriately by staff who have a secure knowledge of the club's hygiene procedures. Using individual towels for children and appropriate procedures for nappy-changing sustain good levels of hygiene and prevent the spread of infection. The group's clear sickness policy ensures children are protected from infection. The staff hold current first aid certificates, and appropriately manage and record accidents. However, they lack permission to seek emergency medical aid and to give medication.

The group compensates well for its lack of outside play space. It provides a large, open indoor space so that children can test and develop physical control safely through riding bicycles and using the slide. Parents bring a packed lunch, then children and staff eat together. This time serves as a social occasion. Drinks are easily available to children throughout the day. Staff are working with parents and children to encourage healthy eating.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The staff provide a warm and welcoming environment where children are relaxed and happy. Children move around freely as they are cared for in a spacious, well maintained setting. The rooms are attractively arranged, and staff regularly change toys and activities throughout the session. The equipment is suitable for all ages and children are kept safe through careful supervision by staff.

Although children are secure and confident in the well-organised club environment, staff do not have a clear fire evacuation procedure that is practiced regularly. Parents or any other person are able to enter the room used by the group. This compromises children's safety. Risks of accidental injury to children are minimised because staff are vigilant and use thorough risk assessments to reduce potential hazards. Children are very well protected by staff who have a clear understanding of child protection policies and procedures and give top priority to children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have fun, are confident and enjoy the activities available to them. They are

happily and actively occupied. They become independent as they choose between a variety of toys, books and activities which appeal to all. Children relate well to each other as they explore and join in activities, for example sharing the modelling tools while using the play dough. They spend their time purposefully in a range of well-planned topics. This takes into account their learning needs and helps them to progress.

Children are enthusiastic, interested and well-occupied in the club's welcoming environment. They enjoy this time during the day when they can relax or be active in accordance with their needs and interests. They are supported well by the staff, who are skilled at encouraging children to extend their experiences and at listening and talking to them. Staff regularly evaluate the activities they provide to ensure the children take part in activities that offer suitable challenge and promote their well-being and development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The group provides a good range of resources and planned themes to promote a positive view of the wider world, enabling children to learn positively about differences and develop an awareness of their own environment, for example looking at their own and each other's faces. Children are valued and respected as individuals, and the activities are adapted to each child's stage of development.

Children behave well in response to the staff's effective use of behaviour management strategies. They benefit from consistent boundaries and the calm approach of the staff. Children respond well while looking at pictures and use spoken words within their vocabulary to say what they see, hear and feel. Positive, friendly relationships with parents promote an informal exchange of information about children's development. The children's needs are met as the staff collect information on their requirements and preferences.

Parents are informed of the group's policies and procedures. However, these are not readily available to parents and do not contain information on how to make a complaint.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The registered person uses effective recruitment procedures which ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified. The induction programme and good teamwork make sure all staff work together well to promote children's health, enjoyment and achievement. Most legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place and is regularly reviewed. The register shows when children and staff are present. However, it does not show times of attendance or the presence of visitors.

The staff provide an inviting environment so that children move around without being inhibited and confidently help themselves to toys they wish to play with. Policies and procedures are used to promote the welfare, care and learning of children. However, these are not readily available to parents, and do not contain information on how to make a complaint. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

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:

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 that children are protected by obtaining written permission from parents to administer medication and recording medication given; and by ensuring that you have appropriate consent to seek emergency medical treatment or advice
- review aspects of safety with particular regard to persons being able to access the setting without being monitored and develop a procedure for evacuating the premises in the event of a fire and ensure that children and parents understand and practice the procedure
- develop a system for recording when children, staff and visitors are present
- review and update paperwork to ensure that all required policies are in place and readily available to parents, especially policy regarding actions to be taken in case of a complaint

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:
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