



Hilldrop Community Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY306279
Inspection date	02 November 2006
Inspector	Moreen Johnson
Setting Address	Community Lane, Hilldrop Road, London, N7 0JE
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Registered person	Hilldrop Community Centre (NoD 30/08/2005)
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?

Hilldrop Community Centre Out of School and Holiday Playscheme registered in March 2005. The group is run by a management committee. It operates from the Hilldrop Community Centre in the London borough of Islington. The group have use of a large hall and adjoining group room, a computer room, small hall, kitchen and two outside play areas. The centre serves children from the local area. The Out of School Club opens five days of the week from 15.30 to 18.00 term-time only. The Holiday Playscheme opens from 09.30 to 17.30.

There are currently 50 children, aged five to 10 years, on roll. Children attend on a full-time and part-time basis.

The group employs four staff. The manager and one member of staff are undertaking relevant NVQ training and the remaining two members of staff are unqualified.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children engage in good hygiene practices as the staff promote good cleaning and hygiene routines so that children are not at risk from cross contamination. Children's health is promoted well because staff implement the medication and accident procedures well. Children will be appropriately treated in the event of an emergency because there are a number of staff members who are qualified in first aid.

Children are provided with a healthy range of snacks such as fruit and wholemeal bread sandwiches that encourage healthy eating and meet their nutritional needs. Children are provided with sufficient water to drink during the session. Children are encouraged to be independent because staff ensure that beakers are easily accessible by the sink. Staff have access to information on children's dietary needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in well maintained premises. Children have access to ample play space indoors and outdoors, they have sole use of designated areas during the settings operational hours.

Children receive generally good care as staff ensure good risk assessments are carried out when children are collected from school and when they are taken on outings. Children's safety on the premises is not always ensured as staff do not provide adequate supervision whilst children are playing outside. For example, for a short period a small group of children were not supervised whilst playing in the outside area.

Children have access to a suitable range of good quality toys and resources appropriate to their age and stage of development. As a result children are well occupied in a variety of stimulating activities.

Children are well protected by staff who have a clear understanding of how to implement the group's child protection policy, which is in line with the Safeguarding Children's Board guidance.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are well settled and have a strong sense of belonging and they know the settings routine well. On arrival children hang up their coats, put their bags away and go straight to the cupboard to choose the items that they wish to play with. Children benefit from good interaction with staff who praise children when they make items with beads and when they make their sandwiches. Staff also support children with using the computer and patiently encouraged children with spelling the user name and password when logging in.

Children have good relationships with each other and staff. Children co-operate well whilst playing with table top games. Two children engage in conversation whilst doing their hair in front of the mirror. Children readily shared information with staff about what they did at school. Staff and children chat happily to each other throughout the session.

Children enjoy playing with a wide range of stimulating activities and they engage fully throughout the session. Children confidently initiate their own play. For example, a small group of children set out chairs to play a game and some children engaged in role play with a hat and a wand. Children enjoy quiet play in the television room whilst watching a video, they engage in construction activities and playing with plastic animals. Children are independent as they freely choose activities, for instant they make their own sandwiches and some also choose to make sandwiches for their friends.

Children enjoy physical play. Whilst in the outdoor area children use hoops skilfully, kick footballs with good control and ride scooters energetically dodging and manoeuvring round each other.

Children are developing an understanding of their community such as when the local police officers visit to give talks to the children and engage in their play.

Children enjoy music and movement as they listen to background music. They enjoy playing games such as musical statues and sleeping lions. Many children sing out loud whilst listening to their favourite songs on the radio.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children who have special needs are well supported and looked after, this is due to the good systems in place that enable children to be included. The close liaison between parents and staff ensures that children's needs are well planned for and met.

Children's behaviour is good and they are developing a good understanding of right and wrong. When staff intervene to resolve disputes children respond positively. Some children clearly show regard for each other. For example when a child bumped into another the child apologised. Management of behaviour is consistent amongst staff who give children the opportunity to express their views regarding their disputes and encourage children to apologise to each other.

Children are valued as individuals and differences are acknowledged by adults who treat children with respect so that children's self worth and self esteem are being developed positively. Children have good access to a range of resources and activities that promote positive images. Staff encourage children to develop further understanding of the wider community.

The partnership between parents and staff is good. When parents arrive to collect their children staff greet them warmly and speak to them individually. Staff keep parents well informed about the setting by providing them with written information. Through discussion held with several parents it is evident that they are happy about the care that their children receive. Parents are aware of the groups complaints procedure and are confident about taking concerns to the

manager. The group demonstrate that they implement their complaints procedure in line with current regulations.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The setting is aware of the significant events and changes that they must notify Ofsted about. There are effective recruitment systems in place. The setting has all the documentation, policies and procedures in place to ensure the effective management of the setting. All records on children and staff are securely locked away.

Staff generally work well together as a team, however, staff are not always deployed appropriately to ensure that children are not at risk whilst playing in the outside area. Overall, the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide care.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection two actions were set relating to Standard 1 and 7. Standard 1 requested that the setting develop an action plan that set out how staff training and qualification requirements would be met. Standard 7 requested that the setting ensure that at least one member of staff obtain an appropriate first aid qualification that includes training in first aid for young children. The group has complied with Standard 1 and has ensured that the manager and one member of staff is in the process of obtaining relevant NVQ training. The group has also complied with Standard 7 appropriately by ensuring that three members of staff has completed training in first aid. This means that children will be appropriately treated in the event of an emergency.

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 that staff are deployed effectively to ensure that children are appropriately supervised in the outside area

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