



CHARTERHOUSE CLUB CRECHE & SUMMER CLUB

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	119976
Inspection date	09 August 2006
Inspector	Louise, Caroline Bonney
Setting Address	Charterhouse Club, Queen's Sports Centre, Duke's Drive, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 2RS
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Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School 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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Charterhouse Club Crèche & Summer Club re-registered in 1999. It is managed by Charterhouse Sports Centre Ltd and runs from The Queens Sports Centre in Godalming. The summer club uses all the sports facilities including the indoor swimming pool and extensive grounds and woods, and children attend from the locality. The crèche is situated in a large designated room and caters for users of the sports centre.

The summer club is registered for 130 children aged from four to eight years, with children up to 11 years old attending. The crèche is registered for 19 children aged

under five. The amount of children attending at any one time varies.

At the summer club children are organised into two age groups, the mini and maxi clubs. Children can attend mini club for half day sessions, and maxi club all day. The club supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and who speak English as an additional language.

Maxi and mini clubs open five days a week during the school holidays. Mini club opens from 09.30 until 12.30. Maxi club opens from 08.30 until 17.30. When staying for a full day children bring their own snacks and packed lunches.

The crèche is open all year round six days a week including Saturdays. Sessions run from 09.30 until 12.30 Monday to Friday, and 09.00 until 11.00 on Saturdays.

There are ten staff working in the summer club. All summer club staff are working towards achieving Level 3 and Level 2 qualifications. There are four permanent and three casual staff working in the crèche. Of the permanent staff three hold Level 2 and 3 qualifications, and one is currently undertaking Level 2 training.

The provision has achieved Investor in People Accreditation.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children follow daily routines which support their health and hygiene. Parents share the sickness policy which helps to prevent the spread of infection. In the crèche young children have their care needs met promptly by attentive staff. Nappy changing and toileting procedures prevent the spread of infection, with staff wearing disposable gloves when appropriate and children washing and drying their hands thoroughly. Children in the summer club manage their personal hygiene independently, with staff only occasionally needing to prompt them. However, procedures are not in place in the crèche to clean children's hands before snack time to prevent the spread of germs.

Children provide their own snacks and packed lunches, and crèche staff have been successful in ensuring snacks are healthy. Older children enjoy relaxing lunch breaks, when they sit together and watch a video while they eat. Children have frequent drinks of water with staff encouragement throughout the day, and know where to refill their individual bottles when empty. This helps children to be aware of the need to keep themselves well hydrated.

Children have their medical needs met through all staff having appropriate first aid training. They are aware of children's allergies and how to treat these, and parents consent to the administration of medication. However, no-one yet has suitable training to administer medicines requiring technical knowledge, such as epi pens. Staff seek parental consent for calling an ambulance in an emergency, but not for requesting medical advice and/or treatment. This means staff are not able to fully

support children's medical needs.

Children benefit from participating in a wide range of sports-based activities. They enjoy the bouncy castle, play team games on the sports field, and learn new skills as they do fencing and swimming. Crèche children have space in their playroom to scoot about on sit and ride toys, to clamber and climb on soft play shapes and toddler climbing frames. This helps to support their health and stimulates their enjoyment of exercise.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play on premises that are safe and suitable for their purpose. They use resources that are well maintained, and appropriate for their ages or abilities. For example, during fencing sessions in the summer club children initially use sponge swords progressing to harder plastic swords as their ability increases. Staff are careful to carry out daily risk assessments of the premises and equipment. Children attending summer club have exclusive use of the pool for swimming sessions, and staff are careful to check children's competency when they first enter the water. New improvements to the crèche entrance enhance security, and make it easier to monitor children as they arrive and depart.

Children develop awareness of risk and how to manage it during well supervised activities, such as swimming and fencing. They show awareness of the safety rules which staff reinforce through discussion, planned art and craft activities, and as they participate in sports activities. For instance, before using the bouncy castle staff encourage them to recall the safety rules. Children know to line up and walk carefully through the centre when they transfer to another area, and help to count heads to ensure all are present.

Children in the crèche enjoy safe challenges as they explore their environment. Babies sit with cushions to support them, toddlers learn control as they use wheeled toys, clamber on large soft shapes or use the climbing frame and slide. This helps to raise children's awareness of risk and how to play safely while staff provide close support.

Children receive suitable protection through managers attending relevant child protection training, and referring to the guidance from the Local Safeguarding Children Board. Staff receive in-house training on child protection procedures and issues during their induction, and are aware of the need to record any concerns immediately and to report these to their manager. This helps to ensure that the safety of the children is given priority.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle well, and receive good support from attentive staff who are friendly

and enthusiastic, and fully involve themselves in their activities.

Children at the crèche enjoy the wide range of toys available. Babies show excitement as they sit supported by cushions and respond to the noises toys make. Toddlers become absorbed in their role-play, and enjoy listening to stories read by staff. Staff have sensitive procedures where-by parents can leave children for short periods initially. This helps children settle as they form trusting relationships with staff, and supports their emotional well-being.

Children attending the summer club enjoy a wide range of activities, which staff organise and plan around topics in advance. They use resources that stimulate and support their activities well. For instance, there is a good selection of materials for children to model and decorate with during craft activities, such as recycled materials and clay. The club has exclusive use of the pool for older children's swimming sessions. Children have good opportunities to work co-operatively and purposefully together. For example, they participate in a wide range of sports and team games, such as rounders, and create large models and pictures together.

Staff organise external support for some activities, such as 'mad science', fencing, or theatrical make-up. Children enjoy the woods to walk through or to build bivouacs in, and older children look forward to visiting the nearby theatre to watch a play.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children at both the crèche and summer club settle well, with younger children in the crèche receiving cuddles and close support from staff as they settle to their activities. Children feel welcome at the provision through staff setting out toys in the crèche and organising the club's base rooms before they arrive. The dedicated club pavilion is especially welcoming, where children create a cosy, stimulating and colourful environment through displaying their art and craft work around the room. Children quickly learn the routines, such as where they store their lunches and belongings. This helps children develop confidence and a sense of belonging at the setting.

Staff encourage children attending the summer club to influence the provision. They complete suggestion slips which staff use to develop future plans, and have opportunities to decide between activities with staff encouraging them to try a wide variety. Children behave well. Older club children develop rules for behaviour, making posters which are then on display in the pavilion. Children show good understanding of the club rules and are helpful. Staff provide good role models as they treat the children and each other with politeness and respect.

Children benefit from staff developing friendly and trusting relationships with parents. Staff seek information about the children's individual needs through the completion of registration forms and documentation. This means that, for instance, young children in the crèche have good continuity of care. Staff promote the inclusion of all children. Children with learning difficulties and disabilities receive extra staff support during activities. Those with no English receive support through staff learning key words in their home language, and through using an interpreter whenever possible. The

effective complaints procedure means that any concerns parents raise are promptly and thoroughly dealt with.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from staff carefully planning and allocating activity areas, resources and organising external support to provide a wide variety of activities and experiences. Children develop self-esteem and foster a sense of belonging as they display their creative work in their base rooms. Older children know they influence the provision by being able to negotiate activities, and through staff seeking their ideas and suggestions for future development.

Children receive care from staff that have undergone rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures. Staff receive a thorough induction, and all summer club staff also undertake introductory play work training. This helps staff to implement the provision's aims, policies and procedures, and supports the welfare of the children. However, procedures for staff to inform the provider of any changes to their suitability are informal, rather than a known requirement. Also, procedures do not always ensure that significant events and changes are immediately made known to Ofsted.

The setting meets the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the previous inspection the provider has made improvements to the storage of lunch boxes, and the staff's qualifications. Children now place their lunch boxes in a chilled cabinet, which keeps the food fresh and supports their good health. Most permanent staff for the crèche and summer club have suitable qualifications, and others are working towards achieving them. All seasonal summer club staff attend a 3-day course introducing play work. This means children receive support from staff who either have or are developing suitable levels of understanding about their activities, care and safety.

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):

- improve hygiene procedures around hand-washing prior to children eating snacks
- improve medical procedures by seeking written consent from parents for requesting emergency medical advice and/or treatment, and ensuring that staff have suitable training to administer medicines requiring technical knowledge such as epi pens
- ensure staff understand their ongoing responsibility to declare any offences or orders which may affect their suitability to care for children
- set in place a procedure to notify Ofsted of relevant matters promptly, such as any significant incidents and changes to key personnel

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