



Cosmic Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY330789
Inspection date	26 July 2006
Inspector	Elaine Simmons
Setting Address	7a Maidenbower Square, Maidenbower, CRAWLEY, West Sussex, RH10 7QH
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Registered person	Childcare and Learning (Cranbrook) Ltd
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Cosmic Club registered to its current owner, Childcare and Learning Group Ltd, in 2006. It operates from four rooms in premises located on the first floor over a shop. It is situated in Maidenbower, Crawley and is close to local schools. A maximum of 32 children may attend at any one time. Children from four years to 11 years of age attend the club. It is open each weekday during term time from 07.00 to 09.00 and from 15.00 to 19.00. During school holidays and school in-set days it is open from 07.00 to 19.00. The club only closes on Bank Holidays. All children share access to a secure enclosed play area located at the Clover Court nursery and this is within a short walking distance. Children come from the surrounding area. A drop off and

collection service operates during term time for children who attend one of three local schools.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children benefit from the staff's good hygiene routines that ensure children's health is suitably protected. They use an anti bacterial spray to clean the kitchen work surfaces and the tables before meals and snack time. They wear plastic aprons and gloves when dealing with children's meals. Children are encouraged by the staff to wash their hands after toileting and before eating lunch. However children are not reminded to wash their hands before snack time and this puts them at risk of infections.

The children are given good opportunities for physical exercise. Staff take them to the local park to play on the apparatus or to play football. Children also have regular opportunities to play in the day nursery garden that is opposite the club premises, this successfully supports their physical health.

Staff have good procedures for dealing with sickness. They maintain good records for recording accidents and any medication that is administered. Children are encouraged to apply their own sun block under staff supervision and to wear sun hats when going outside to play. Staff have parental permission to apply sun cream and provide cream for children who have forgotten to bring theirs. However not all children remember to bring sun hats and consequently they are not suitably protected from the sun on very hot days.

Children are provided with healthy and nutritious meals and snacks sufficient for their needs. Meals are cooked on the nursery premises opposite and brought over to the club's premises in suitable containers. Staff are aware of the children's individual dietary requirements, as these are clearly displayed in the kitchen area, enabling them to provide suitable meals and snacks for the children. Jugs of water are available at all times for children to help themselves. The staff are very proactive in ensuring children do have regular drinks by taking water with them to the park and by reminding children to drink throughout the day which prevents them from becoming dehydrated.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The staff follow good procedures to ensure children are safe and secure at all times. They have a good security system at the front door and can see via a television screen who is there before allowing them in. The premises are clean and well maintained. There is sufficient space to meet the needs of the number of children attending. Staff have arranged the rooms to provide areas where children can play or

sit quietly to relax or rest if required.

The children have access to a very good range of toys and equipment. They have sufficient, varied resources to meet the needs of the differing age groups attending. Children are able to access toys from around the rooms providing them with freedom of choice and promoting their independence. Staff also provide a good range of craft resources which help develop the children's creative and imaginative skills.

Children's safety is very well protected by the staff who provide very good supervision when taking children on outings. They remind children of the rules when going out to the park and walk with the children, ensuring one member of staff walks in front and another member of staff walks at the rear. Children walk together in two's and cross any roads altogether, using good road safety procedures. These procedures are also used when children are taken to and from the local schools during term time.

Staff have a clear understanding of all child protection requirements to ensure children are protected at all times. They clearly understand the symptoms of abuse and how to record and report any concerns they may have. A child protection flow chart is displayed on the parents notice board and a letter from the local authority is given to parents when children start, advising them of the legal requirements.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children have a good range of activities arranged and planned for them by the staff. They are taken out daily for physical recreation and an outing is arranged once a week during the school holidays. For example the staff have arranged for children to go to the cinema, visit a pizza restaurant to make pizzas and have lunch . Children also have opportunities to visit parks further a field where they have a picnic lunch.

Staff are very aware that when children come from school and during the school holidays that this is their time. They offer children help and support if they want it but, allow them to choose what they would like to do.

Staff ask the children to sit quietly after lunch for half an hour, they are able to watch television or play card games together. Children said they enjoy coming to the club during the holidays and after school. They were having fun playing with the new small world toys recently purchased by staff and creating collage pictures with the creative materials provided. Older children enjoy imaginative games in the role play area. They made dens and had pass words for other children to gain entry. Staff give good supervision at all times and provide encouragement and praise as children achieve or do something for each other. They help them negotiate and they foster good relationships with the children. Staff also encourage the children to foster good relationships with each other. The staff promote children's self esteem, confidence and independence successfully.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have access to a few resources that reflect diversity of the wider world, which means their knowledge and understanding of the wider world is not sufficiently promoted. However, children have made posters, with staff support, that show 'welcome' in other languages and these are displayed on the walls as you enter the building.

The staff have a good understanding of how to meet the needs of children with special educational needs. They provide care on a one to one basis for one child with special needs and adapt the setting or the activities to enable another child to take part in the day events. They work with parents and other outside agencies to meet the children's individual needs and to provide suitable care at all times.

Children generally behave well because the staff use good behaviour management strategies. They are patient, and firm with the children and give them good, clear explanations. The staff use positive techniques and explain what is going to happen next so that children understand what is required of them. They discuss with the children anything they do wrong and give them options, helping them to understand that their unwanted behaviour has consequences. Staff are proactive in helping children understand about bullying and evidence of work they have done is on display. This helps to remind children of what to do if you are being bullied and what makes a person into a bully.

Parents are given good information about the clubs activities, they are clearly displayed on the notice board or on the wall so that parents can see what is happening over the term or holiday. Staff post reminders on the doors to help prompt parents memory about providing their children for example, with sun cream and hats. Parents are given a pack when their child starts and this covers the policies and procedures of the club and gives them clear information on how to raise a concern or how to contact Ofsted. Staff work with parents to provide the care they require and to meet the children's individual needs appropriately.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff organise the after school and holiday club very well. They use the premises effectively to meet children's needs and to provide them with areas where they can play safely and happily. They understand the wide age range that they care for and ensure that all children are cared for appropriately. Staff clearly understand the adult to child ratios and ensure these are met. Children's arrival and departure is recorded accurately on the daily registration sheet by staff. They monitor the entrance to the premises successfully to ensure children are suitably protected and that no one comes in who is not known to them.

Staff are given opportunities to attend training and this is organised by the manager

of the day nursery. She also keeps all the staff 's and children's records secure, takes the bookings and provides parents with details about the club. The staff work in both the day nursery and the after school and holiday club, and this is advantageous as it often means the children know them well prior to starting, as most children have previously attended the nursery. Parents receive lots of written information and a verbal exchange of information is given when children are collected. This helps to ensure children's well-being is promoted successfully. The out of school and holiday club meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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 good. 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 children are suitably protected from the effects of the sun, for example ensure sun hats are available for all children.
- ensure children wash their hands before eating, especially at snack time.
- expand resources so that children have sufficient and appropriate toys to reflect the wider world

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:

