



Creche & Kool Crew Burnt Oak Leisure Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY331229
Inspection date	27 October 2006
Inspector	Audrey Opal Ufot
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Registered person	Phoenix Fitness Centre, Greenwich Leisure Ltd
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.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Crèche and Kool Crew Burnt Oak Leisure Centre opened in 2006. It is one of several provisions run by a company called Greenwich Leisure Limited. This setting operates from a purpose built leisure centre situated in the residential area of Burnt Oak, in the London borough of Barnet. The crèche operates from a specifically designated area with its own entrance.

A maximum of 18 children may attend the crèche at any one time. The children will only be permitted to attend for a maximum of two hours and their parent's must remain on the premises. The Kool Crew uses some of the leisure centre sports areas to provide a holiday play scheme for children aged five years to eight years. A maximum of 40 children may attend at any one time and there may also be children over eight years attending.

The crèche is open each weekday Monday from 13:00 to 15:00, Tuesday 18:00 to 19:00, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 to 12:00 and Friday from 14:00 to 16:00 all year round. There are currently eight children aged from under one year to five years on roll. Children come

from the local and wider community. The crèche currently supports a number of children with learning difficulties or disabilities and also supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language. The crèche employs three members of staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children learn about health and the importance of personal hygiene through consistent routines and daily discussions; they are encouraged to wash their hands at appropriate times. For example, after going to the toilet and before snack time. Children are healthy because staff ensure daily routines help to prevent the spread of infection, for example, changing mats and all toys are cleaned and sterilised and tables are wiped down before and after snacks times. This is carried out each day to ensure a clean environment for all the children.

Staff are aware of the systems to record all accidents and the administration of medication, helping to keep the children healthy and ensure the parents are well informed. For example, parents sign all records of accidents to acknowledge the entries. Children are protected because at least one member of staff who is qualified in first aid attends the session. This ensures the children will receive immediate treatment in the event of an accident. Although staff are qualified in first aid a certificate is not displayed for parents information.

Children enjoy nutritious snacks in comfortable surroundings. Children's individual needs are discussed and recorded on their registration forms. This information is used to inform all staff of children's allergies and dietary requirements. Staff use snack time as a social occasion, talking to children about which types of food are good for them. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise. Younger children are given ample space to crawl and practise walking in the baby area. All children enjoy the garden area as there is a good range of equipment available for each age such as peddle car, see saw, climbing frame, push along toys, tricycle and balls, which is suitable for their stages of development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are made to feel welcome in this child-friendly environment, for example a staff member greets a child with 'how are you' 'I like your skirt' and 'you look beautiful today'. The environment is brightly displayed with children's art work and posters around the walls. This helps children to feel valued and part of the crèche. Children over two years are encouraged to hang up their coats independently, while staff and parents ensure children under two years are assisted as necessary. Suitable and well maintained toys, play materials and equipment is set out throughout the crèche which children are able to choose freely to meet their individual needs. For example, child size furniture and baby mobile activity gym.

Children benefit from a safe and secure environment because the staff team are vigilant and remove any possible hazards. For example, peddle cars are moved from the walkway in the

indoor area, to prevent children from tripping up. The front door is kept locked and parents have to sign in and out of the crèche and only an authorised person collects their child, this ensures that children's safety is safeguarded at all times. Children are made aware of dangers through consistent reminders, for example, as they know they must not run in the crèche. Staff practise regular fire drills with the children and teach them how to keep themselves safe. As a result they know what to do when they hear the fire alarm.

Children are well protected because all staff have a clear understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow if concerns are identified, which promotes the safeguarding of the children. Detailed policies and procedures are in place and shared with parents to ensure they are aware of the crèche's responsibilities. Existing injuries and incidents are all recorded and parents sign to acknowledge the entries.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children settle quickly on arrival as they are welcomed by members of staff. Younger children are developing confidence and self-esteem as they have time to explore independently in this safe environment. For example, they are interested to learn and explore as they move and crawl around to seek out and retrieve toys within their play area such as an activity mobile gym and making circular movement.

Older children enthusiastically play with a good range of toys and play materials which fully promote their learning. They have good opportunities to access a wide range of materials such as sand, water and play dough, as well as imaginative and art activities. They are developing their drawing skills and increasing their vocabulary as staff asks a group of children 'what are you doing?' One child replied 'I am making a cloud' and 'I'm making a bird'. Children concentrate well and are spontaneous in their writing as one child said 'look I am writing my name' which she wrote with confidence. Children involve staff in their play and learning because they receive lots of warm attention and praise which enables them to successfully extend their drawing and writing skills.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The staff team's understanding of equal opportunities is clear and they have implemented policies and procedures effectively. All children are welcome and play a full part in the crèche because staff value each child as an individual. Children are confident and show good self-esteem responding to continual praise and encouragement. Children are learning about the world they live in as they have access to some resources that promote positive images of different cultures and differing abilities. They also learn about festivals and traditions celebrated in the local and wider community. However, there are not sufficient toys and play materials to promote this.

The crèche supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities and also supports children who speak English as an additional language. They have close links with their local authority

special needs co-ordinator who give support and advice. Clear rules and boundaries are in place so the children behave well and are polite because they know exactly what is expected of them.

Children's needs are fully met as parents complete detailed registration forms so that their child's individual dietary requirements are recorded for the crèche. Parents are kept well informed about their child's general wellbeing and activities through verbal discussion at the end of each session. Effective policies and some of the complaint procedures are in place. However, there is not a method in the existing complaint procedures to record a complaint made by a parent. All the required paperwork and documentation is well maintained and is readily available for inspection at any time.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff ratios are maintained at all times and their deployment within the crèche is effective, enabling staff to provide good support and supervision ensuring that children's care, learning and play are suitably met. Children share good relationships with the staff team who have been thoroughly vetted for their suitability to work with the children. As a result children are secure, feel relaxed and at ease in the well organised, child focused environment.

The organisation of the toys and play resources within the crèche allows children space to explore, crawl and pursue their interest safely. Children show independence as toys and play resources are easily accessible to help them choose for themselves. The crèche makes good use of the local authorities training programme to ensure all staff are up-to-date with current practices and new initiatives, such as the Birth to three matters framework. All the required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and wellbeing is in place and are regularly reviewed, providing a stimulating and exciting environment for all the children.

The setting is meeting the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable, this is the first inspection since registration.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration 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 a first aid certificate is displayed to inform parent of staff that are qualified in first aid
- ensure that there are sufficient toys and play materials to promote different cultures and disabilities
- include to the existing complaint procedure a method to record a complaint made by parents.

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