



Greenway Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY331319
Inspection date 31 May 2006
Inspector Flo Griffin-Taylor

Setting Address Greenway Centre, Doncaster Road, Bristol, Avon, BS10 5PY

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Registered person Working in Southmead for Health (WISH)

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?

Greenway Out of School Club and Holiday Play Scheme is based in the Contact Unit at the Greenway Centre, Doncaster Road, Southmead, Bristol. It was originally set up some sixteen years ago and moved to its current premises in July 2005. The provision is the responsibility of Working in Southmead for Health (WISH), which has a committee made up of local residents. Children who attend live mainly within the local and surrounding communities, and all are in full time education. They have the use of a large room for general activities and occasional use of a gym, badminton court, snooker room and hall. Toilet areas are nearby these facilities. Children also have access to the outside play areas and adjoining playing field.

The club is open Monday to Friday term time, and during most school holiday periods, the exception being Christmas. The Out of School Club operates from 15.30 to 18.00, and a maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time. The holiday play scheme is open from 08.30 to 18.00. Up to 50 children may attend, aged from four to 14 years, with a maximum of 24 children aged under eight years. There are currently 79 children, overall, on roll. The premises are wheelchair accessible and the club provides support for children with learning disabilities.

Currently, five staff are employed to work directly with the children, all of whom have a range of qualifications and experience. During the school holiday periods there are more staff on duty, together with some volunteers and the addition of some specialist sessional workers. A rota system is in operation, according to the number of children attending, their specific needs and the requirement for staff to have breaks. Two staff hold Level 2 certificates in early years and play work. Two staff are currently undertaking NVQ Level 3 training and a further member of staff is working towards a Level 2 qualification in play work.

The club receives support from the Early Years and Child Care Partnership (EYCCP) and is also affiliated to Kids Club Network.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is suitably promoted through established routines and good practice. This is supported by a range of written statements, which includes sickness, health and hygiene procedures. Children are protected from illness and infection through the provision of a clean environment and the exclusion of children who are sick. Play and equipment items are washed regularly and tables cleaned at lunch and snack times. Children are appropriately looked after if ill and are suitably protected through staff's knowledge of first aid and the procedures to follow, if medication is administered and accidents occur. All records are shared with parents. However, accident sheets are not countersigned by parents and medication self-administered by children, is not recorded.

Children are independent in their self-care skills, for example, they wash and dry their hands after using the toilet, after messy play and before eating. Staff support the younger children and act as good role models, helping them to develop a positive awareness and understanding of health issues. They talk about the reason for washing hands and are encouraged to adopt good hygiene procedures.

A varied range of activities are on offer, which contribute to children's good health. They enjoy physical play on a daily basis, which helps them learn to control their bodily movements, develop co-ordination and maintain good fitness levels. Children enjoy the freedom of space using both the inside and outside play areas to run, play football, rounders, tennis, group games and develop a range of skills using bats, hoops and skipping ropes. All are able to rest and relax according to their needs, where they look at books, complete puzzles/board games, listen to tapes or watch

appropriate videos.

Children are developing an understanding of nutrition and are encouraged to eat healthily. Parents provide packed lunches during the holiday play sessions, which are labelled and stored appropriately in a cool area. Children are offered a varied range of nutritious snacks, which comply with special dietary requirements and the wishes of parents. Drinks are regularly on offer, and children are able to help themselves from an easily accessible bottled water stand/cooler. Occasional projects and cooking activities are also undertaken on food, with regard to various countries around the world.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are warmly welcomed and greeted into the safe and relaxed environment. They use a range of play resources and equipment appropriate to their age and stage of development, all of which conform to safety requirements. Samples of children's own art work and creations are on display, giving additional colour to the surroundings. Children's freedom to move around inside is maximised as the main play and activity area is well set out and organised. There is sufficient space between activities, which are arranged in clearly defined areas. Play items such as construction sets, small world play and craft materials, are easily and readily available. These are stored in boxes and in low drawer units, and extend children's choice, enabling them to self select and be independent. Outside, children are able to move around safely and freely within agreed boundaries.

Safety is given much consideration, so that children are protected from harm. Risks of accidental injury are minimised because staff are vigilant and use risk assessments, for both the indoor and outdoor space, to reduce potential hazards. However, some lack sufficient detail and do not include all areas used within the premises. Staff have a good understanding of how to achieve a balance between freedom and setting safe limits, and how to involve children effectively in organising their own environment. This allows children to learn some sense of danger, to gain knowledge about how to protect themselves and take responsibility for keeping themselves safe. Fire drills are undertaken, but not on a regular basis and details are not duly recorded. Safe procedures are in place for any visits undertaken, with children well aware of the need to stay close together at all times. Regular and ongoing communication with parents also contributes to children's safety.

Children are well protected by staff, who have a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection, policies and procedures. Children are closely supervised at all times and are never left in the care of staff, or other adults, including volunteers, who are not vetted. Staff are clear as to their responsibilities and the actions to follow should concerns be noted, and share this information with parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are relaxed, happy and settle quickly. They benefit from the knowledge and experience of the staff, who know each child well and their particular interests. Children are engaged in a broad range of activities that are interesting, stimulating and developmentally age appropriate. Activities organised during the holiday play scheme are well considered beforehand, with children consulted, and some are planned around a weekly theme, for example, 'Summer Time, 'Frogs and Amphibians', and include linked outdoor play ventures, such as scavenger hunts and team races, with opportunities for visits and outings. There is insufficient forward planning, however, applied with regard to the after school club, although children's interests, together with celebration of specific festivals, are taken well into account. Staff also do not regularly evaluate the activities they provide, to ensure that they continue to offer children suitable challenge and promote their well-being and development. Children, however, are enthusiastic and self assured. They choose with confidence from the suitable and appropriate range of toys and resources available that are either set out in readiness prior to their arrival, or are easily accessible.

Children enjoy the varied creative activities on offer to them and eagerly participate. Their learning and enjoyment is well supported through appropriate staff intervention. For example, staff discuss the range of paints on offer and how to mix them together. They talk about the craft resources available and how these can be imaginatively applied. Children use the paints and craft materials to create their own artistic pictures, producing bright patterns, collage designs and greeting cards for their families and relatives. They make colourful animal face masks and musical shakers. They explore the texture of plasticine, moulding, manipulating and creating small imaginative models. Children are proud of their achievements and the pieces of work they produce. These are valued and shown and discussed with parents, with many placed on display.

Children interact well with each other, sharing and exchanging views. Older children show care and consideration to younger children, for example, by explanation about how to play a board and a card matching game and use the video recorder to show a dance sequence, so that they can all participate. Children are confident and eager to talk about the ideas they have and what they have done.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed and included. They are encouraged to play a full part in the club, because staff value and respect the individuality of each child. They enjoy friendly and respectful relationships with the staff and each other. Their self-esteem and confidence is developed, as they voice their opinions and make choices and decisions. They gain a sense of belonging to the club through their views being actively sought and listened to, and their creative work displayed. Children willingly take on responsibilities within the club, for example, washing tables and tidying up.

Children show care and concern for each other and play happily together. They are generally well behaved, polite and co-operative. They benefit from the clear,

consistent boundaries and calm approach of the staff, who give constant praise and encouragement. Children know what is expected of them, because they regularly discuss the club behaviour rules. Staff talk to the children to support them and to gently, but firmly, reinforce behaviour boundaries. This helps children learn to negotiate with others and take responsibility for their own actions and behaviour.

Play items and resource materials representing positive images are readily available. Planned activities, such as projects on food from around the world and celebration of festivals, such as the Chinese New year, Eid and Divali, increase children's awareness of diversity and their understanding of other cultures and ways of life. Children learn about the living world and their local and surrounding environment, through trips and outings to places of interest such as the zoo, the city docks, the Industrial Museum, Canford Park, Blaise Castle and the West Midlands Safari Park.

There are effective arrangements in place to care for children with learning disabilities, so as they integrate well with the group. Staff sensitively discuss children's individual requirements with parents. Equipment and resources are adapted, as appropriate, and the necessary staff support provided, to ensure they are able to participate fully. All children respect and understand that some children need extra help and willingly support those who do. This contributes to children's overall well-being and an understanding of other's needs.

The partnership with parents is good and contributes significantly to the children's happiness and welfare at the club. Parents are made to feel welcome, valued and relaxed and are encouraged to take part in the club activities. Relationships are warm and friendly. Parents are kept well informed about the provision, the activities undertaken and of their children's achievements, through on-going daily discussion. Any specific concerns relating to children are discussed confidentially, and an agreed strategy plan adopted, so that children do not receive mixed messages.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's care and learning is appropriately supported by suitably qualified and experienced staff. The main play and activity area used within the premises is well set out and structured, and space arranged to maximise play opportunities. Resources are easily accessible. Staff work well together as a team, are enthusiastic, interested and clear as to their roles and responsibilities. They take advantage of on-going training opportunities and meet regularly to discuss and reflect on the provision provided. They receive on-going supervision and yearly appraisals.

The legally required documentation, together with the operational plan and a comprehensive file of policies and procedures, is in place. These all contribute to children's overall health, safety, well-being and protection, and are regularly reviewed. However, some aspects lack detail. The daily attendance sheets are not consistently well maintained and do not always clearly identify when children are present. Visitors are not recorded.

Staff are deployed appropriately, know the children well, and engage and support

them in their play. A broad and balanced range of activities are on offer that children enjoy and which provides challenge, stimulation, choice and interest. Children settle well and are happily and purposefully engaged. They benefit from the committed staff team, who manage space, resources and time effectively.

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 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

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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 accident forms are countersigned by parents and that any medication self administered by children is appropriately recorded.
- ensure that risk assessments are sufficiently detailed and include all areas used within the premises, and comply fully with fire safety recommendations, with fire drills carried out on a regular basis and full details recorded.
- ensure that the daily attendance record sheets are consistently well maintained, with children's arrival and departure times clearly detailed, and that visitors are recorded.

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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