



Rainbow Christian Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY294927
Inspection date	31 July 2006
Inspector	Jane Pamela Berry
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Registered person	Rainbow Christian Centre
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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Rainbow Christian Centre Playscheme was registered in 2005. It operates from premises in the Hulme area of Manchester. The playscheme has use of the main hall, the art room, the music room, the craft room and the crèche playroom, with access to an enclosed outdoor play area. The playscheme is registered for a maximum of 50 children at any one time and is open 10 till 12.30 and 14.30 to 16.30, during the summer holidays. There are currently 33 children on roll, of whom some have a disability and for whom English is an additional language. There are 12 members of staff who work directly with the children, of whom 3 hold relevant childcare qualifications and all are suitably qualified.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are mostly protected from contamination through hygiene routines, such as washing hands after using the toilet and before eating their snacks; they talk about the reasons for washing hands, which increases understanding of personal hygiene. However, children are sometimes open to cross infection as they share towels in the bathroom.

The children are adequately protected through staff adherence to their individual dietary requirements and allergy information which is recorded on the children's basic records. Their health is adequately fostered through the provision of healthy snacks, such as fruit being offered on a daily basis. Children have regular access to water and learn the importance of keeping well hydrated through activities. They enjoy physical and robust play, as they play sports competitions and visit local venues, such as the water adventure play centre. The ongoing development of the nature garden enhances children's knowledge and provides greater access to the outdoors, which has been somewhat restricted recently.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from well organised activities in different rooms with adequate space available to them to move around as they wish. The building is sufficiently maintained and any issues are identified and are dealt with. There is a range of suitable equipment to meet the needs of the children attending, for example, there are different activities to cater for the interests of children and their differing ages and abilities.

The outdoor area is fully enclosed and the door remains locked during the session, which ensures that children are safe and well cared for. There are however, omissions in that the switch on the heating appliance is accessible to the children and fire practises are not undertaken, frequently enough, to ensure that children know what to do in an emergency situation. The children are, however, very well supervised at all times and this ensures that they are well protected and do not come to any harm.

Staff have access to basic information from the Local Safeguarding Children Board's guidance about dealing with child protection concerns. The provider has produced a policy document to ensure that all staff understand the procedure and shares the information with parents. The process for dealing with allegations against staff is, however, unclear and is under review.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children benefit from an extensive range of activities and from being actively involved in sports tournaments. They thoroughly enjoy painting, sticking collages and face-painting activities. They are active and enjoy very good relationships with the staff and with one another. They are happy and contented, as they arrive excitedly and anticipate what they will do during the session. They have interesting choices over what they do. The children make creative displays, models, cards and pictures. They follow themes, for example, exploring water and gardens. Children of different ages and stages of development are very well provided for, such as going on outings to places of interest, visiting parks and gardens, and going to the theatre. The children really enjoy themselves, with opportunities for active and robust play to expend their energy, as they play table tennis and in the ball-pool. Quieter play opportunities are also readily accessible including a computer room. A well planned programme of events with input from the children ensures that their interest and enthusiasm is captured.

Children are valued as the staff listen and talk to them. There is always plenty for them to do. All the children are happy, busy and are well behaved. Sports activities and competitions are celebrated by the children, who all get something to acknowledge their efforts and achievements. There are some excellent examples of children's craftwork, such as a very large fish, butterflies, flowers, insects, and ladybirds all made by the children from recyclable materials. These are very elaborate and detailed works of art, which delight and engage the children from an early age. The scheme is a very well established and cohesive group, where children make friends easily.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are well behaved and staff offer positive praise throughout the session for sharing, for good behaviour and to recognise personal achievement. For example, all the children's behaviour is exemplary, including the children identified as having special needs. These children are successful, busy and well occupied.

Children learn about different lifestyles through the different activities available, such as making bracelets. The good range of toys and equipment reflects positive images, as do posters and the pictures displayed on the walls. There is a written statement detailing how the setting cares for children with additional needs and the staff liaise with parents about children's individual routines. This ensures children are well integrated in the setting.

Parents have access to information about the setting and about the care offered. The relationships between parents and staff are relaxed and friendly. All children and parents benefit from the well organised key worker arrangements that are securely in place. The complaints procedure is accessible to parents and carers.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The provider ensures that all staff have the relevant qualifications and experience to care for the children attending. Staff have appropriate suitability checks and this helps to ensure all the children are safe.

The group follows a well planned programme and staff know what their role is within the group daily. They work very well as a team with the children and the required ratios are above those expected, this ensures the children have high levels of support. The rooms are organised so that the children are offered areas for quiet, robust and active play.

Policies and procedures are in place to support the practice of the group and records are well maintained. The policy for safeguarding children is however not clear enough, regarding allegations made against staff or volunteers. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report. 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 fire safety is reviewed, for example, the frequency and recording of evacuations and restricting children's access to the switch on the gas fire
- update the safeguarding children policy to make it clearer what to do should an allegation be made against a member of staff or a volunteer
- organise documentation to more easily identify the children under eight in

attendance.

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