



Club V

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY269658
Inspection date	25 September 2006
Inspector	Sarah Gilpin
Setting Address	Broadfield Park, Broadfield Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S8 0XQ
Telephone number	0114 262 9600
E-mail	
Registered person	Virgin Active Limited
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Club V is based in the Virgin Active Life Centre in Heeley, Sheffield and is one of several clubs, across the country, owned and operated by Virgin Active Limited. It opened in 2003 and operates from self-contained accommodation within the centre. Childcare is provided for the children of members of the Virgin Active Life Centre while they participate in leisure activities within the centre. It is a condition of use that parents remain on the premises at all times.

Childcare is provided for a maximum of 40 children, aged from six weeks to under eight years. Older children may attend the setting. The provision opens seven days a week from 09.00 to 20.00 Monday to Friday and from 09.00 to 17.00 on Saturday and Sunday. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the service for children under three years finishes at 16.00. Children attend the club for a maximum of two hours in any one day.

The club employs 16 staff on a full and part-time basis. Over half the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a very good range of physical play, which includes fitness and activity classes that contribute to their good health. They enthusiastically use the 'Big A' where they scramble, balance, climb, slide and crawl with growing confidence and ease. Children propel themselves around the large hall on ride on toys and bounce happily around the bouncy castle. Their hand-eye coordination is developing because they have opportunities to use small equipment and tools, such as pencils and paint brushes during creative play activities. Babies and young children have space to roll and crawl around within the crèche room. Their rest and sleep needs are successfully met by the staff who recognise when they are tired and provide a warm and cosy environment for them to sleep.

Children are cared for in a clean and well maintained environment. The staff implement the clubs health and hygiene policies and procedures effectively to promote children's well-being. For example, they use gloves when changing nappies and clean toys and equipment each day. They encourage children's understanding of hygiene through carefully monitored hand-washing routines.

The children attend the crèche for short sessions only. Fresh drinking water is available at all times to the older children and babies are provided with milk feeds that have been prepared by the parents and labelled on arrival. As a result, the risks of allergic reaction to snack foods are minimised.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a welcoming, secure and safe environment because staff use continual observation to identify and minimise potential hazards. For example, when they are setting up the large equipment they are vigilant and watch the children carefully. The majority of the policies and procedures are in place and implemented by staff to promote the safety of the children. The children are beginning to understand how to keep themselves safe because staff remind them to put on their shoes when running around the large hall to ensure they do not slip.

The varied range of resources, toys and equipment used by the children are safe. Low level storage and small tables ensure that even the youngest children can safely access all areas and resources. Equipment meets the required safety standards and suitable systems are in place to ensure that staff check and maintain items regularly.

Children are well protected from potential abuse or neglect because the staff understand the importance of child protection and have a sound understanding of the club's reporting procedures. The policy contains all of the required elements and staff training in this area is given priority. There is a clear system for ensuring that staff are suitable to work with the children, such as a requirement that all staff have a clear criminal records bureau disclosure

and as a result, children are cared for by adults who are suitable to do so. There is a clear accident recording procedure; however, the system for recording any existing injuries children have is insufficient.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children thoroughly enjoy their time in the setting. Staff work directly with the children and support their play and learning. Children are motivated, interested and enjoy a good range of play and learning activities during their short time in the crèche. Babies have a separate area that is well equipped and they are able to explore and experience the range of age appropriate toys and equipment. However, staff have a limited knowledge of the 'Birth to three matters' framework, which can be used to develop the provision for the under three's.

The staff recognise that children attending the crèche may be unsettled and work hard to ensure they have a good time. For example, children who come for one hour each week are encouraged to join the fun. Babies and toddlers receive lots of cuddles from the staff and this successfully increases their sense of well-being.

Older children have the opportunity to play team games as they take turns to lead new games, such as 'wink murder' and enjoy playing on the games consoles.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by staff who are caring and responsive to their individual needs. There are resources, toys and equipment to promote children's awareness of the world around them and other people. The crèche design and carefully selected resources successfully promote access for all children including those with disabilities and learning difficulties. The environment is attractive and children's individual art work is celebrated when displayed by staff.

Children behave well because staff work closely with them and successfully use praise and encouragement and promote positive behaviour. For example, sharing is celebrated loudly. The warm and friendly relationships between the children and the staff means that children feel secure and comfortable. The children seek staff out to play with chosen activities, for example, to join a traffic light game in the large hall.

There is a suitable partnership with parents. Information is shared through written and verbal communications. Parents have access to the settings policies and procedures, which are displayed around the crèche to ensure they are informed about the provision for their children. Easy going exchanges between staff and parents, as the children arrive and depart, ensure that staff can meet the children's changing needs, however, staff caring for babies are occasionally unsure about collection and feeding times because this information is recorded at the main entrance. Parents are very happy with the care provided for their children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children are cared for in a setting that is well organised to provide children with a wide range of activities each day. Children are supported well as they play, because of the enthusiasm of the staff and the high staff to child ratio. As a result, the outcomes for children are successfully promoted.

Most of the required policies and procedures are in place to support staff in promoting children's health, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution. There are clear recruitment and vetting procedures, which ensures that staff are suitable to work with the children. Regular training and development opportunities for all staff means they know about child development and current practice.

Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides. The provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the crèche was required to improve the following, the system for risk assessment, and the range of activities to promote positive images and to develop the staff teams understanding of child protection. All areas have been addressed and as a result the children are safe and enjoy participating in activities that promotes their awareness of the wider world.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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 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 that all existing injuries the children may have are recorded

- develop the provision for children under three by using the Birth to three matters framework
- improve the system for exchanging information with parents regarding their children's time in the crèche.

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