



Hatterspace Community Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY274192
Inspection date	11 August 2006
Inspector	Kashma Patel
Setting Address	Upper Abbey Street, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV11 5BT
Telephone number	02476 384 491
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Registered person	Take A Break Limited (4075624)
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Hatterspace Playscheme opened in 2003. The group is run by the Take A Break scheme, which offers support to children and their families who have learning difficulties or disabilities. It operates in the Hatterspace Community Centre in Nuneaton. The group operates from one main room which has a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The group serves the local and wider area.

The group is registered to care for a maximum of 12 children from three to eight years and is currently caring for 12 children. Children attend a variety of sessions. The group supports children who speak English as a additional language.

The group opens during the school holidays. Sessions are from 10:00 to 14:00 on alternate days.

The group employs seven staff. Over half of the staff have an appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is well promoted because the setting ensures that reasonable steps are taken to promote their good health. Children are supervised in the toilet and when hand washing, staff reinforce the benefits of hand washing to promote their hygiene. Effective steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection such as cleaning tables with an anti-bacterial spray. Accurate measures are taken when children are ill so their health is promoted well.

Children are well nourished because they are provided with healthy snacks of fruit during the day. They also bring in packed lunches which are nutritious and meet their dietary requirements. Meal times are social occasions where staff and children sit together, staff interact well and feed children who are unable to do so.

Children's physical development is well supported and this contributes to a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy regular outings to the leisure centres where they can move freely and safely. Children are taken for daily walks to local shops to buy fruit for their snacks, this helps them to integrate into their community.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are safe and well cared for in premises that are secure and suitable for their purpose. The setting ensures that the environment gives children good access to a range of facilities that successfully promote children's development. Children move with ease from the indoor to the outdoor area. Premises are well lit, adequately ventilated, well maintained and there is easy access to a telephone.

Children have satisfactory access to range of equipment that is suitable and safe. The setting provides toys, furniture and equipment which is appropriate for children being cared for. However, children do not have toys and resources which promote disability and this impacts on their awareness of the wider world. Children were observed playing with role-play equipment, construction and outdoor equipment. They are of suitable design, condition and are well maintained.

Children are kept safe at all times due to close supervision by staff and their awareness of safety issues. All required safety features are in place such as fire safety equipment. Children are learning to keep themselves safe, they know they have to hold staff's hands when on outings and walk sensibly. Staff carry out good

risk assessments prior to outings to ensure children are kept safe.

The children are adequately protected from harm because staff have a satisfactory understanding of their role in child protection. They are able to put appropriate procedures into practice and can identify the indicators of abuse.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are confident and becoming independent in their environment. They have access to a satisfactory range of resources which they can easily access and are appropriate for their stage of development. Children ask questions to staff such as when they can go out to play or on outing. Staff interact positively with the children and show obvious enjoyment in their company, as they join in with activities such as playing football in the garden.

All children have their individual needs met and are developing a good range of knowledge and skills. There are effective plans in place which provide activities and play opportunities to help children progress in their development. Children enjoy creative activities such as sand, role-play and colouring which develops their imagination.

Children are learning right from wrong and form positive relationships because they are learning to get along with each other and share toys. There is consistent boundaries and adult support which helps the children to achieve.

Children are developing new skills and experiences through regular outings to parks and activity centres.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are able to feel a sense of belonging, they work harmoniously with others and make choices and decisions about what they want to do. Children have access to some resources which promotes their understanding of diversity and the local community.

A written behaviour policy is understood and implemented by staff. There are consistent and positive strategies to promote children's behaviour, such as talking and giving children time to think about their behaviour. The children are learning to manage their own behaviour because they are encouraged to consider others around them. They receive praise and rewards for good behaviour which develops their self-esteem. They are learning to play together, take turns and share.

The children's individual needs are met well because staff work closely with parents and carers to ensure they are fully included in the setting. Staff discuss children's progress daily with parents. As a result, the children feel comfortable and settled. Children's welfare is safeguarded because a log of complaints is maintained which

reflects the new regulations: it informs parents of what action to take if they are concerned about the care of their children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are protected because the recruitment and vetting procedures are robust and ensure that all staff have been vetted and are suitable to work with children. Staff have appropriate experience and qualifications which ensure that children's needs are met.

Children's welfare is promoted, as staff are deployed well to ensure children are cared for appropriately. Additional staff are available to go on trips to ensure ratios are maintained according to the children's individual needs. Children enjoy freedom to move from the indoors to outside because staff ensure all areas are well supervised.

All documentation which contributes to the children's health, safety and welfare is in place. Documentation is stored safely and is accessible in an emergency. Information is shared with parents to ensure continuity of care.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the group was asked to ensure that arrival and departure times were recorded on the children's register.

Since the last inspection the setting has improved children's safety by recording arrival and departure times of the children.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since 1 April 2004.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by the 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.
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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 resources are appropriate for developmental needs of children; to reflect positive images of disability.

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