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Chill Out Time Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Better education and care

Unique Reference Number Inspection date Inspector	EY232472 14 September 2006 Jim Bostock
Setting Address	English Martyrs RC Primary School, Beaufront Gardens, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE5 2SA
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Registered person	Chill Out Time Childcare
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Chill Out Time Childcare is based in the Children's Centre of English Martyrs Roman Catholic School in Fenham, Newcastle. They admit children from the school and accept any from other areas if transport is provided by parents.

The scheme is open for children from English Martyrs from 08.00-09.00 and from 15.15-18.00 in term-time. The scheme is also open from 08.00-18.00 during school holidays and would accept children from any area. A creche also operates as and when necessary. The group does not provide overnight care. The scheme is registered to care for 30 children from three to eight years and accepts children up to the age of 14 years. At the time of inspection there were 100 children on roll. The group also uses the school field as a regular part of the sessions. In addition, there is access to the front yard and nursery play area for children aged under six.

The provider who co-ordinates the three Chill Out Time Childcare settings holds an NVQ Level 3 qualification in playwork and is currently working towards gaining a degree in Early Years

Care and Education and Children's Play and Playwork. The setting has a manager and deputy and there are support staff from within the organisation, all of whom hold appropriate qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children receive a balanced and healthy diet, including the provision of fruit, snacks and drinks each day with tea and breakfast being provided by the service. For instance, on the day of inspection the children were enjoying pitta bread wraps with cheese, salad and tomatoes. The staff have a good understanding of the nutritional needs of children. Children's individual dietary needs are recorded and reflected in the meals and snacks provided. Meal times are social occasions for children with lots of discussion about daily events and staff help children learn about healthy eating. Children benefit from the good communication between staff and parents about food and drink issues with the service fully respecting any requests from parents. Children have easy and constant access to drinking water within the playrooms.

Children's health and hygiene is promoted through the staff having undertaken the basic food hygiene course and the carrying out of daily routines, including washing of hands before eating and after toileting. There are individual towels available for children to reduce the risk of cross infection. Accidents and medicine administered are recorded appropriately. There are good procedures in place for children who have special medical needs with staff involved in any medical procedures having full training and permissions to assist children. All staff have first aid training which further protects children well.

Children's physical development is well promoted through regular use of the outdoor area where they have access to active play, such as football, which they thoroughly enjoy. They develop fine muscle control by participating in activities, such as craft, cut and glue, and painting.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment which is light and in good decorative order. The service promotes child safety within the building by encouraging children to be aware of danger and keeping themselves safe, as well as taking good precautions to reduce the risk to children. Children's safety is promoted within the building by the undertaking of regular risk assessments, the results of which are acted upon. Close supervision of children is used by the staff to help prevent accidents and keep children safe. This is further enhanced by the number of staff available each session which is over the number strictly required within the standards.

The service has good written policies covering a wide range of safety issues and staff are fully aware of these issues which help protect children well. The service has good fire safety procedures and has made provision for a safe and efficient evacuation, including good written plans and records of practice evacuations. The arrival and collection of children is well planned and keeps them safe.

The service has identified a member of staff as the child protection coordinator who has a good awareness of the issues involved in protecting children and has undertaken additional child protection training. Most staff have had child protection training and there are good policies and procedures in place to protect children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have a warm and caring relationship with the staff. They interact confidently with staff who show a detailed understanding of their individual needs. Children are encouraged to be independent with support and guidance in selecting and using the toys and equipment effectively. Expressive and enthusiastic language is used by the staff when interacting with the children, who respond with enthusiasm and interest. Children's abilities and confidence are developed through effective use of the wide selection of resources available. Staff have a good understanding of the development of children, putting into practice skills and methods gained from experience and relevant training. Children's self-esteem is developed through the staff valuing each child's contribution.

Children benefit from a planned activity programme which encourages their interest and progress, such as matching games, craft activities, music and song, and outdoor play. They enjoy board games, such as the Pokemon game, where they concentrate and stay interested for long periods with minimal adult support. The ethos of the service is enjoyment and choice and staff help children to achieve this. Parents are fully involved in their children's experiences with the regular updates.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are cared for as individuals with differences being acknowledged and enjoyed. Children gain a good understanding of the wider world and their local community through activities. They learn to be respectful and interact positively from the staff providing good role models and discussions about behaviour and relating to others. Children develop self-confidence very well because they receive lots of praise and encouragement. They are eager to participate in activities and respond very well to the staff. They learn to share, relate well to each other and behave very well. Children are further helped to learn about managing their own behaviour by taking part in making up the rules of the group.

Relationships with parents are promoted and developed very well. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress and details of their physical care on a daily basis, both verbally and from individual files. Parents are fully consulted about all aspects of the care provided. They provide written information for the service about their children and also provide written permissions for a variety of issues so that children can be cared for in accordance with their wishes. Parents' comments about the service are very positive. They feel they receive good information, relate well to staff and their children thoroughly enjoy attending sessions.

There are activities, toys and resources related to multicultural play. Staff are knowledgeable about learning difficulties and disabilities and about children's individual needs which helps children's involvement and inclusion in the daily events. All children mix freely and participate in all activities which helps them develop an awareness and positive attitude to difference.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The service provides clear routines and organised activities which give children confidence in the setting. Children benefit from the relevant training attended by the staff which is reflected in the good standard of care provided. Most of the staff are qualified and they have access to good ongoing training which helps them to effectively meet the needs of children. The well planned daily routine allows children to experience a wide variety of stimulating and interesting activities.

The documentation kept enhances the care provided by being relevant and well organised, apart from the register of attendance which is not always fully completed. The records are stored in a way that ensures confidentiality. There are written policies and procedures to cover all aspects of the care provided which benefits children by providing the basis for staff. The service has current public liability insurance cover so that children are well protected. The certificate is displayed on the wall as is required. All appropriate checks are carried out to ensure staff are suitable to work with children.

A creche is also provided on the premises. Although this was not operating at the time of inspection, the policies and procedures, planning, staffing and resources are all organised in the same way as the out of school and playscheme services.

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 setting was asked to have a range of improvements . They now have a child protection policy. There is a key worker system in place for outings. Parents have full access to all policies and procedures and parents are aware of the complaints procedure. Risk assessments are done on a daily basis and clearances are available for inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004 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 complaint 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 there is a clear record of attendance of children and staff.

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