



## Victoria Mill Community Building

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY291023
<b>Inspection date</b>	14 August 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Nighat Ghani
<b>Setting Address</b>	20 Lower Vickers Street, Miles Platting, Manchester, Lancashire, M40 7LH
<b>Telephone number</b>	0161 205 8128
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Family Welfare Association
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

The Fun Club Open Access Scheme is run by Family Welfare Association. It opened in 2003 and operates from a large hall of the community building. It is situated in Miles Platting, an area of Greater Manchester. A maximum of 50 children may attend the scheme at any one time.

The scheme is open each weekday during the summer and the Easter holidays and every Wednesday, all the year round. Sessions are from 10.00 to 12.00 and 13.00 to 15.00 in the holidays and 18.30 to 20.00 on Wednesdays. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 38 children aged from four to eight years of age on roll. The scheme serves the local community. There are three qualified members of staff, all of whom are employed on part-time basis.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a good range of healthy and nutritious snacks, which comply with all special dietary requirements and parents' wishes. They eagerly make choices from the range of fresh fruit that is on offer daily, for example, grapes, strawberries and bananas are readily available to the children. Hygiene practices are, however, insufficiently carried out by all staff at snack time, as they do not encourage the children to sit down whilst they are eating. Subsequently, the children wander around as they participate in the different activities. This does not help them to digest their food or maintain their good health. They also do not learn table manners or see snack times as an important social occasion. Children, also do not learn effective hygiene practices, through the daily routine, as they are not encouraged to wash their hands before snack time, which does not actively promote their health. Children do, however, help themselves to drinks throughout the session to ensure that they remain hydrated.

There are some systems in place to promote children's health. For example, they benefit from procedures being followed by staff for the safe reporting of accidents. Children are assured of receiving appropriate treatment in the event of an emergency as there are sufficient members of staff with current training in first aid. They get plenty of opportunities throughout the day to benefit from fresh air and vigorous exercise. Children eagerly participate in group games, such as badminton, skipping and parachute games, which promotes their muscular control and coordination.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children arrive happily and settle well as they are warmly greeted by staff and other children, which contribute to a welcoming environment. Children quickly make independent choices in their play as range of toys and resources are easily accessible to children.

Children's risk of accidental injury is minimised, as staff carry out regular risk assessments, however, some risks have gone undetected in the outdoor play area. For example, broken glass, cans, plastic bottles and cigarette ends are accessible to the children. Children's safety is not afforded priority as the systems for monitoring children on the premises are ineffective. Fire safety is, however, given priority and fire drills are practiced regularly. As a result, all children are familiar with the procedure in case they have to evacuate the building in an emergency.

Children's welfare is protected by a secure induction system, to ensure all staff and volunteers are aware of the issues regarding child protection. There is a clear policy for staff to follow and this is also included in the information pack for the parents. Staff are aware of the procedure to follow in the event an allegation is made against a member of staff. This helps to safeguard children's welfare.

## **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children benefit from the positive interaction and secure relationships with staff. Their thoughts and ideas are extended by staff's questioning techniques and encouragement. Consequently, children develop new skills, such as creating models using different coloured paints. Children confidently express their ideas to staff in the secure knowledge that they will be listened to. They chat to each other, share and take turns, as they play snooker and board games. Younger children extend their vocabulary and have fun whilst participating in skipping games with the staff and the older children.

Flexible routines allow all children to pursue their own interests and make up their own games, especially whilst playing outside. The staff use simple activity plans to ensure children are provided with varied activities and resources. This helps to maintain children's interest and keep them well-stimulated.

Children thoroughly enjoy their play and engage in a broad range of activities, fostering their all round development. They make choices about where they want to play as they are free to move around selecting toys of their choice, both indoors and outside. This extends the personal choices available and encourages the children to exert their independence.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are warmly greeted on arrival making them feel welcome. They are treated with equal concern and all staff respect the wishes of parents, as regards to any individual needs. This helps to promote children's self-esteem. Children have some opportunities to learn about different lifestyles, including cultural experiences and religious beliefs, through the celebration of festivals. Resources that reflect positive images are, however, limited, which restricts their view of the world.

Children are generally well-behaved and cooperative. They respond well to staff and any requests, which provide the children with clear boundaries and expectations. Children share and take turns easily when playing group games. They form good relationships with one another and with the older children. They show care and concern and are sensitive and kind towards the younger children.

Children's sense of security is fostered by the systems in place to promote good relationships with parents. Children's individual needs are documented on entry and parents receive useful information about the setting. Notices and letters are used to inform parents about new information and staff are available to exchange relevant information on daily basis.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are happy and secure in the setting, which is sufficiently organised to ensure all of the staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Staff work closely to

ensure the smooth running of the scheme. Good induction and regular meetings ensure that the staff are fully aware of the policies and procedures. However, occasional lapses in the organisation result in gaps in ensuring that the health and safety of the children is prioritised.

Children have formed good relationships with staff, which makes them feel safe and secure in the environment. Staff are deployed sufficiently well as they work alongside the children, in order to support and encourage them in their play. Procedures are in place to ensure that staff working with the children are suitably vetted. However, the qualification requirements are not clearly evidenced in the organisational procedures to offer parents sufficient information. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection three recommendations were raised. These were to ensure that the certificate of insurance is available for inspection at all times, to ensure that the complaints procedure for parents includes the address and telephone number of Ofsted and to ensure that the registration system has the full names of children and clearly indicates who is on the premises at all times.

The provider now displays the current certificate of insurance for parent's information. The complaint procedure includes the address and telephone number of Ofsted making parents aware of their rights. All these improvements have contributed to enhancing children's safety. The registration system has the full names of the children present. However, the system for monitoring children on the premises is not effective enough.

### **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 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):

- encourage children to learn about personal hygiene through the daily routine and promote good hygiene practice during snack-time

- ensure children on the premises are monitored effectively to ensure their safety at all times
- ensure that potential hazards are minimised with particular reference to the outdoor play area
- increase resources that reflect equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice
- ensure evidence of staff qualifications are readily available.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)