



## Hampden Park Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY252596
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<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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Hampden Park Play Scheme is owned by Eastbourne Borough Council. It re-registered in 2004 due to a change in management but has been operating for several years. It operates from a sports centre in a residential area of Eastbourne. The play scheme has access to a room, a sports hall and two squash courts. There is a fully enclosed Astroturf area for outdoor play and there are playing fields adjacent to the club.

A maximum of 35 children aged from 4 to 7 years may attend at any one time. The play scheme caters for children up to the age of 13 years but children under 8 are

cared for separately.

There are currently 150 children on roll. The play scheme makes provision for children with special needs and for those who speak English as an additional language. The play scheme opens from 09.30 until 12.30 Monday to Friday during school holidays. Children can bring a packed lunch and stay until 13.00.

The play scheme employs eight staff. Of these, four have a relevant qualification.

The group receives support from the local authority.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children play in a clean environment where they learn the importance of good hygiene. Children automatically wash their hands after visiting the toilet. Effective procedures prevent the spread of infection. If a child becomes ill while attending the play scheme, staff act in the child's best interest. The manager gathers all information regarding medical needs and informs staff as appropriate.

Children enjoy a range of outdoor games that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. Playing on a bouncy castle helps them develop jumping and balancing skills. They enjoy the opportunity to learn new skills such as skipping.

Parents provide snacks but children also receive dried fruits at break time. Staff know children's dietary needs and ensure they do not share food. This means children do not eat any foods that could cause an allergic reaction. Children have regular drinks, especially while playing outside. This prevents dehydration in warm weather. A tuck shop with limited stocks gives children the opportunity to choose and buy their own sweets. Topic work and food tasting ensure children learn about foods that are good for them.

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

The provision is good.

Children arrive happily and quickly join in with the group. Displays of children's creative work make the reception and base room welcoming for all. Children benefit from playing in a spacious well-organised environment. This allows them to move around and play safely. Each summer, before the play scheme starts, staff check all toys and resources to ensure they are clean and safe for children to use. Regular risk assessments indoors and out maintains a clean and safe environment. Although the group do not have sole use of the whole premises, a good deployment of staff keeps children safe at all times.

Good staff interaction and gentle reminders develop children's awareness of safety both indoors and out. For example, when skipping, staff remind children to find

enough space so they do not hit others with the rope. Children respond well to good explanation.

Staff have a good awareness of child protection issues and understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns. This promotes and safeguards children's welfare within the setting.

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy a good range of stimulating activities. Each week of the play scheme focuses on a theme such as 'Pirates', 'Space' or 'Insects and animals'. All activities and games are linked to the theme. Children have lots of opportunities to be creative. For example, children design and create their own aliens using a variety of materials. They play circle games that introduce the names of planets. This makes learning fun.

Children have fun displaying their work on notice boards for everybody to see. This shows their work is valued and gives it meaning. They take great pride in their achievements.

Children relate well to staff and to each other. They are confident when asking adults for support. This shows there are good trusting relationships within the setting. Staff spend their time praising, talking to and playing with the children. This means children quickly develop new skills and interests. Planning is good and caters for all tastes and abilities.

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

The provision is good.

Staff treat children with respect and use lots of praise and encouragement to promote their self-esteem. Staff encourage all children to join in the activities but also allow free choice. This ensures children have equal opportunities to maximise their enjoyment and potential. Children receive individual support according to their needs. Topics such as 'Puppets', introduce children to various cultures. This ensures children develop a positive attitude towards diversity.

The premises and activities are adapted for children with special needs. This allows them to experience a wide range of stimulating activities appropriate for their level of ability. Staff gather information from parents to ensure they can meet a wide range of individual needs.

Children behave well. Staff remind children each day of the expectations of behaviour. Children understand and abide by the rules and treat each other kindly. This promotes harmony within the setting.

A parents' notice board gives good information about the scheme and activities. Staff and parents exchange information at the beginning and end of each day. This ensures continuity of care for the children.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from a well-organised environment where the emphasis is on having fun. Good staffing ratios means children benefit from good supervision at all times.

Although the provision takes children over eight years, the younger children stay together. This ensures the care of older children does not adversely affect the care of the younger children. The staff who work with the younger group have plenty of experience which means they can cater for individual needs.

All staff are suitable to work with children and most have an appropriate qualification or are working towards one. Staff work well as a team and have a good understanding of their role. This means staff spend their time with the children giving good support according to individual needs.

Daily chats inform parents of any concerns regarding their children. This ensures continuity of care. Overall, the provision meets the range of needs of the children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

## **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):

- review and update policies and procedures and make these easily available to parents

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