

Bell Green Surestart

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY290730

Inspection date 13 July 2005

Inspector Benita Catherine Hart

Setting Address Bell Green Under Eights, Roseberry Avenue, Coventry, West

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Registered person Coventry Surestart North East

Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Full day 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?

Bell Green Surestart opened in 2004. It is located approximately four miles from Coventry city centre. It operates from its own premises and has a large secure play area at the rear of the building. It offers a range of services to young children and their parents in the local area. These include play and stay sessions, a creche facility and summer play sessions for older children up to 8 years. The creche sessions operate two to three times a week from 9.30 to 12.00 and 12.00 to 14.30. There are currently 14 children on roll for the creche, attending a variety of sessions.

The group will support children with special needs and children who speak English as

an additional language. All staff who work with the children have a recognised early years qualification. The setting is supported by the local authority early years service.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a warm, clean environment which is welcoming and child orientated. The staff promote and encourage good hygiene standards and children learn the importance of sensible hygiene and personal care. Children understand they must wash their hands after going to the toilet, before food and after messy play. They enjoy a range of activities which promotes movement and exercise, for example using wheeled toys and climbing. A safe environment is provided for babies to crawl, investigate and explore. Staff monitor the resources and equipment through the creche session to ensure they are clean for the babies and young children's use. A sick children's policy is made available to parents which protects other children using the facility. All staff have a current first aid certificate and medication and accident records are in place.

Children enjoy a healthy mid-session snack and they are learning the benefits of healthy eating. Children may choose what they wish to eat and drink. Parents may provide food and drinks for the session and this is stored appropriately. All parents' wishes are respected. Younger children are offered regular drinks to ensure none remain thirsty.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a safe and secure environment. Children cannot access any areas which are unsafe without staff's knowledge. Staff regularly assess hazards which may have an impact on the children, for example, security, access to the storage area and the outdoor play area. However, although they have a fire evacuation procedure in place, staff do not practise this with the children or their parents.

Toys, resources and equipment are kept clean and in good condition. Staff monitor the babies choice of toys for safety and suitability and the children have good independent access to resources. The room is well organised and children have sufficient space for movement and play.

Children are well protected. Staff have attended child protection training and are aware of their responsibilities. They have a secure understanding of child protection issues and of the procedure to follow where there are any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have good opportunities to take part in a variety of activities which are suitable for the children using the provision. Children benefit from well trained and skilled staff being able to settle the children in quickly to the creche routine. However, meeting the children's needs is a priority for the staff and they are flexible in their organisation of activities especially when new children are attending. Staff make good use of the Birth to three matters framework and they have a secure understanding of child development and the range of experiences which enable babies and children to make greater use of their senses and creative abilities.

Children respond well to the staff. Babies receive lots of cuddles and the staff respond to their sounds and needs during play. Children enjoy the range of play experiences on offer and benefit from the wide range of resources available. They have good opportunities to explore their creativity through paint, water, dough and sand. This helps children work through their feelings and ideas in a variety of ways.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children from a variety of ethnic backgrounds and children with special needs would be welcomed into any of the services that Surestart have to offer. The setting ensures that the resources positively represent the children who attend as well as individuals from the wider community. This helps children develop a positive attitude to others. Children are valued and respected and there is a commitment from staff to ensure that children are secure and included. Strategies for managing the behaviour of the children are appropriate for the age and stage of the children attending.

Children benefit from the positive relationship the staff have with their parents. Babies settle well because staff work closely with parents to ensure they follow the baby's routine wherever possible. Parents and staff exchange information on a regular basis which benefits the children's overall well-being.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff have created a well organised and friendly environment where children and their parents are welcomed. Well trained and qualified staff provide a range of interesting and stimulating activities for the varying ages that attend. Children benefit from ongoing staff training which is provided with the aim of improving skills, knowledge and professional development.

Clear procedures and effective policies support staff in working successfully with the children. Partnership with parents is well developed. The range of different sessions that Surestart provides, enables staff to focus on activities towards the children's needs. Overall, the needs of all the children who attend are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable, as this is the first inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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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):

• practise the emergency evacuation procedures regularly to ensure children can be evacuated safely.

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