



## Attlee Youth & Community Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	119545
<b>Inspection date</b>	30 October 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Sharon Henry
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<b>Registered person</b>	The Attlee Foundation
<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?

Attlee Youth & Community Centre is an open access play provision for children aged five to 16 years.

The provision is situated in the brick Lane area of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, within walking distance of local shops and amenities. The group is registered to provide out of school care for 70 children aged five to eight years.

The group operate Tuesdays-Thursdays 16:00-20:00 in term time. Saturdays 10:00-17:00.

In the school holidays the group operate Tuesdays-Thursdays 10:00-17:00.

## **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 personal hygiene through daily routine. Staff reinforce this with gentle reminders. Effective systems are in place to make children aware of their responsibility with regard to maintaining a clean environment. For example, children are encouraged not to drop litter on the floor, but to put it in the bin. This encourages children to be responsible for their environment and promotes independence.

Children can either bring their own pack lunch or go off the premises for lunch. There is provision for children to store perishable foods which minimises the risk of contamination. A water fountain provides children with the opportunity to access drinking water independently.

Children physical development is well supported, they have daily access to the outdoor adventure area, where they participate in a variety of activities. For example, climbing, balancing and using the zip rope to swing from one area to another, all of which help maintain their large motor skills. Children enjoy a range of energetic activities, such as football and basketball, which allows them to enhance their physical skills and develop a positive attitude to exercise. Children are able to choose whether they would like to play inside or outdoors, allowing them to fulfil their own needs and interests. For example, a spacious indoor gymnasium enables children to enjoy physical activities inside, where they enjoy playing tennis and badminton.

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

The provision is good.

Children are welcomed into a stimulating, bright and cheerful environment with a good range of equipment appropriate for the wide age range attending. Children use a wide range of toys and equipment appropriate to their age and interest. Staff ensure that children have a good variety of resources available to them and facilitate their play appropriately.

Staff are active in promoting children safety both on and off site. Children stay safe because staff implement regular daily checks, swiftly noting potential hazards and taking prompt action to eliminate the risk of harm. For example, a daily written risk assessment is carried out before the session. Children and staff practise the emergency evacuation procedures on a regular basis. This helps children become familiar with the routine in the event of an emergency.

Children are kept safe on outings because the staff ensure appropriate safety measures are in place, for example, high staff ratio and a written risk assessment and consent forms. Access to the premises is monitored with visitors and children having to sign themselves in and out at reception.

The overall safety of children is positively protected because staff are sufficiently well informed about their role in safeguarding their welfare. Staff are trained in child protection and up-to-date written procedures help ensure they are clear about the steps to take if there are concerns about a child.

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

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the setting through positive relationships with staff and spending time with their friends. They develop confidence and self-esteem through being given lots of praise for their effort and achievements. Through a wide range of art and craft materials children develop their imagination and creativity and take pride in what they are doing and have achieved. For example, a group of children were doing a collage and proudly discussed where they should display it.

Children use a wide range of toys and equipment appropriate to their age and interest. Staff ensure that children have a good variety of resources available to them and support their play appropriately.

Children's independence is promoted well; they have many opportunities to express their views and ideas. They are confident in creating their own learning environment and expressing their likes and dislikes.

The staff knows the children well and plan a range of activities to stimulate children's interests. The children are relaxed in their environment and express their needs clearly, they receive warm praise from the staff which builds their confidence and self esteem.

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

The provision is good.

Children feel secure and develop a sense of belonging as they are warmly welcomed into the setting and are treated with equal regard. They are cared for by staff who know them well; this enables individual needs to be sufficiently met. Children access a good range of resources, which promote positive images of society. Their awareness of diversity within the wider society is positively promoted through planned activities, such as celebrating a variety of festivals throughout the year. This helps to promote children's understanding of diversity, whilst increasing their self-esteem and respect for others. However, resources that reflect disability are less visible.

Children with learning difficulties and disabilities are well supported within the setting, children with mobility difficulties are able to move freely around the centre and a lift enables them to undependably access the art and craft rooms upstairs. A sensory room provides children with valuable experiences.

Children behave well due to staff's sensitive support and clear explanations, which help them feel secure. They are kept occupied and motivated at all times, which contribute to their good behaviour. Children take responsibly in drawing up ground rules and a traffic light system is used to reinforce the severity of certain behaviour and the consequences. For example, verbal warnings for behaviour that falls in the green zone and possible exclusion for behaviour that falls in the red zone. As a result children are aware of the settings boundaries and know what is expected of them.

Children benefit from well established informal relationships between staff and parents. Parents are given information about the provision, and staff are always available. Parents are encouraged to come on site and meet the staff.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children's care is greatly enhanced by the quality of the organisation and the skill, knowledge and understanding of the staff. The premises are well organised with effective use of space to maximise play opportunities for children. For example, different rooms for particular activities, such as art and craft and use of the computer.

Staff provide a safe and secure place for children to play where they are relaxed and happy. Staffing ratios are maintained by appropriately qualified and experienced staff, who are clear about their roles and responsibilities. This positively supports children's care, learning and play. Children benefit from well-deployed staff that facilitate children's play and give effective support and encouragement. As a result, children feel secure and are confident. For example, children were able to express their enjoyment of being at the centre.

Effective staff induction and training ensures that policies and procedures are consistently applied and staff are fully aware of their duties and responsibilities. This impacts directly on the quality of care and children's learning. Documentation is maintained to a good standard and includes detailed information on the children's individual needs.

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

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

not applicable

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since registration 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 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):

- improve children's access to positive images with regard to disability.

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)