



Kidsville-Islington

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY233665
Inspection date	24 August 2005
Inspector	Asia Islam

Setting Address	333 Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7DG
------------------------	------------------------------------

Telephone number	020 7014 9740
E-mail	www.virgin.com/active
Registered person	Virgin Active Limited (3448441)
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
--

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Kidsville crèche registered in March 2004. It's one of 17 crèches run by Virgin Active Health Club. The crèche operates from a purpose built room on the ground floor of the Health Club and is located in the London borough of Islington. The crèche room is divided into three areas, an area for children aged two years plus, soft play area and an area for under two year olds. The setting serves the children whose parents/carers are members of the club. It is open all year round seven days a week, and sessions are minimum of one hour and a maximum of two hours. Operational hours are from 09:00 to 17:00 and closed for public holidays.

The group is registered to care for a maximum of 18 children under 8 years at any one time and currently there is a total of 430 children aged from 4 months to under 8 years old on roll. They attend various sessions during the day.

There are seven members of crèche, including the manager who works directly with the children. More than half of the staff team hold relevant child care qualifications and some of the staff members are working towards a Level 2 childcare qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health and hygiene needs are met very well. They are cared for in a very clean, warm and caring environment. Staff members regularly change babies' nappies. Older children are reminded to wash their hands after toilet to help them learn about hygiene. Though, explanations are not always given to develop their understanding.

Children benefit from a staff team who have a good understanding of the procedures for accident and illness. Most of the staff members hold a valid first aid qualification, and the first aid box is fully stocked and easily accessible.

Children are provided with drinks, milk and snacks which parents supply. Drinking water is given as and when needed by children.

Babies are learning to gain control of their bodies whilst they crawl and play freely on the floor. Older children steer cars and manipulate play dough with confidence. Appropriate types of activities and levels of support help older children to set their own limits and know when to ask for help.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a very safe, child friendly and secure environment. Area dividers in the room and the entrance gates to the baby area are made of soft padded material to prevent any injury to young children. Staff sensitively ask babies to be gentle with each other when cuddling and encourage them to hold and play with toys in a way to help them learn about the possible risks.

Children have access to a range of good quality resources, which are kept within easy access. Equipment and resources are maintained to a very good condition. Equipment is available for developing large motor skills are mainly appropriate for children aged under five years. This includes cars, buggies, a small slide and the soft play area.

Children are protected well from neglect and abuse. Staffs know the signs and symptoms of abuse and the correct procedures to follow in the event of any Child

Protection concerns. The provision is unsure of the procedures to follow for any allegations of abuse made against staff and does not have a procedure in place should such an event occur to protect children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in the crèche. They eagerly enter and engage in role, constructional, imaginative and creative play. Older children enjoy kneading, rolling and cutting the play dough. Staff use words such as squeeze, warm and colour to help develop their language. Opportunities to problem solve through puzzles, be creative through painting and mark making is not set out. Therefore, their all round development may not always be supported. The Birth to three framework and the Curriculum guidance for the foundation stages are not currently used in planning children's activities.

Babies show delight in being held and cuddled. Staff sing nursery rhymes and clap hands with the babies. They express feeling of enjoyment and excitement with smiles, giggles and bubbling sounds. Musical activities and shakers support their sensory development. Children are familiar with the setting, have good relationships with each other and the staff. They share resources and take turns. Children's communication both verbal and gestures are responded to positively by the staff.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have access to a range of good quality resources that reflects positive images of diversity and helps to promote their understanding of differences. Celebration of different festivals has recently been introduced in the plan of activities. Children are learning about each other as staff introduce them to each other by name, and encourage them to play nicely and ask about each others wellbeing. They show affection and care for each other. They respond positively to staff's sensitive guidance.

Children are included, valued and treated with equal concerns. They have equal access to resources regardless of their gender. Their self-esteem and confidence is promoted through meaningful praise, acknowledgment of their achievements and good behaviour. Their needs are met in accordance with parent's wishes. The provision initially obtains information about the new children to provide appropriate care. Their continuity of care is met through the regular exchange of information about them with their parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a positively organised environment that takes into consideration

their need for care, rest and play. They play comfortably and with ease. The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

The setting's system for notifying Ofsted of the relevant staff changes and the checks they have undergone is not always effective. Most of the policies and procedures are in place to support children's welfare. Children's attendance records and other necessary information are maintained well. The accident record book contains more than one child's information on a page and does not help to maintain confidentiality.

Improvements since the last inspection

Complaints since the last inspection

Since 1 April 2004, concerns were raised once with regards to the National Standard 1, Suitable Person, National Standard 2, Organisation, National Standard 8, Food and Drink National Standard 12, Working in partnership with parents and twice with regard to National Standard 13, Child Protection. The provider was asked to respond to the concerns in writing. Ofsted visited the provision and no evidence was found that standards had been breached.

Ofsted asked the provider to investigate and evidence provided indicates that the provider has improved their management of child protection procedures. The provider remains qualified for registration.

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):

- use the Birth to three matters framework and the Curriculum guidance for the Foundation stages to improve the planning of children's activities, and ensure the range of activities available support their all round development
- improve the maintenance of confidentiality for children's accident records
- develop effective system to keep Ofsted updated with the required staff changes and checks that they have undergone

- develop and understand the procedures to follow for any allegation of abuse made against staff

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