



Playhouse UK Ltd t/a Playhouse Horsenden

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY341823
Inspection date	15 February 2007
Inspector	Jennifer Devine
Setting Address	All Hallows Church, Elton Avenue, Greenford, UB6 0PR
Telephone number	0208 4225035
E-mail	playhouseuk@btopenworld.com
Registered person	Playhouse UK Ltd
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	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.

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?

Playhouse UK Ltd after school care is run by a private provider. It opened in 2006 and operates from the hall within All Hallows Church in Greenford, in the London Borough of Ealing. A maximum of 24 children may attend the after school club at any one time. It is open each weekday from 15:15 to 18:15 during term time. Children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area. Mainly children attending Horsenden Primary School attend the club but it is open to all children. There are currently 21 children aged from four to under eight years on roll.

The nursery employs four staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children learn about the importance of good personal hygiene through well planned daily routines. Children have a good awareness of the importance of washing their hands before snack time. The premises are maintained to a generally good standard of cleanliness and therefore promotes a healthy environment for children. Thorough procedures are in place for medication administration or dealing with any accidents. Three staff hold valid first aid certificates which enables them to deal with any emergency confidently.

Children enjoy snacks that are healthy and nutritious, these include pasta in tomato sauce, sandwiches and fresh fruit. They have a choice of milk, water or low sugar squash to drink and can request a drink as required. Children enjoy sociable meal times sitting together at tables and chat about their day at school. Staff are fully aware of any special dietary requirements which are strictly adhered too.

Children thoroughly enjoy physical play which is available daily, either at the back of the large hall or outdoors in good weather. They play many team games together such as football, cricket or tennis. This is well organised and enables the children to release their energy after the school day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children move around freely in a safe and secure environment, where they are well supervised by the staff. The hall is light, bright and welcoming to children. Space within the setting is used well to allow children to sit at the tables, play games or participate in craft activities, play with toys on the floor or read books in the book corner. Children are escorted to the club from the local school by three members of staff and this ensures children's road safety whilst outdoors. Staff carry out daily risk assessments to minimise any possible dangers. Parents or visitors are required to ring the doorbell to gain access to the club and this prevents any unwanted visitors gaining access.

Fire evacuation procedures are regularly carried out with children and this ensures they gain an awareness of fire safety issues.

Children's welfare is protected as staff have a good knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and know the reporting procedures to follow if they were concerned about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and settled in the after school club. Children are able to make choices about what they wish to play with. Staff set out a range of activities such as games, puzzles, train

sets and home corner play but children can also ask to get a particular activity out if they wish. Craft activities are planned daily and children thoroughly enjoy a sticking activity where they make a hedgehog from wood shavings and make pictures of houses from cutting out foam shapes. All the children play extremely well together, having a very good understanding of sharing and taking turns. They have lots of fun and laughter with each other and follow rules of games carefully. Older children are respectful to the younger children, allowing them time for energetic play whilst they concentrate on making intricate models with the 'K'nex' construction. Staff provide lots of support and encouragement and provide good role models as they demonstrate new activities or explain rules of a game.

Older children have the opportunity to sit quietly to complete their homework if they wish to do so.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have access to a meaningful range of resources and activities to promote a positive view of the wider world and increase their awareness of diversity. They take part in activities to celebrate festivals throughout the year such as Diwali and Christmas. Staff are very knowledgeable and provide very good support to children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. They support children's individual care and learning needs effectively to ensure they are valued and included in the group.

Children are well behaved and understand the boundaries within the club, responding to staff politely and respectfully. Age appropriate, positive strategies are used by staff to manage any difficulties that may arise. Staff are well deployed to work directly with the children and this helps keep children focussed and attentive.

Children benefit from the good relationships the staff have with their parents or carers. Parents or carers are greeted and made to feel welcome when they arrive to collect their children. Staff are friendly and approachable, spending time talking to them about their child's day or relaying any important messages from school.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from a well organised setting where staff work well together as a team to ensure children are happy and enjoy their time at the club. Children's welfare is safeguarded because robust recruitment procedures are in place to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Children's individual needs are met effectively as the staff have a range of child care skills. They are dedicated and motivated to develop their learning and regularly attend further training courses to facilitate this. The registered provider works closely with the Early Years team to continually monitor and review practice. Clear and comprehensive written policies and procedures are available to staff and parents. Most of the required documentation is in place. However, no records of staff's attendance has been recorded and the children's register is not always accurately maintained. This compromises children's safety.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the 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):

- ensure the attendance register is accurately maintained
- ensure a record of staff's or any visitors attendance is recorded.

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