



Hutton Moor Leisure Centre Camp Adventure and Creche

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY334989
Inspection date	19 February 2007
Inspector	Timothy Butcher
Setting Address	Hutton Moor Leisure Centre, Hutton Moor Road, Weston-super-Mare, Avon, BS22 8LY
Telephone number	01934 425900
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Registered person	Parkwood Leisure
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School 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?

Hutton Moor Leisure Centre Camp Adventure and Crèche is part of the Parkwood Leisure group having previously been registered since 1998. It operates from designated areas within a purpose built leisure centre in Weston-Super Mare, North Somerset. Camp Adventure is registered to care for a maximum of 26 children aged between five and eight years at any one time and the crèche is registered to care for a maximum of 12 children at any one time. Camp Adventure is open from 08.30 to 17.15 each weekday during school holidays. The crèche is open 09.30 to 13.30 each week day. Both provisions are not open on bank holidays. There are 20 staff employed within Camp Adventure and five staff within the crèche. All of whom work directly with the children, including the overall manager. The manager is qualified and experienced in her role, and over half of the remaining staff have childcare qualifications to level 2 or 3 and experience in childcare. The setting receives support from the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have their health adequately promoted. Children are cared for in a suitably clean and well maintained environment, which helps to safeguard their health. There are suitable procedures in place should a child have an accident. Staff act in children's best interests and parents and carers are informed that an accident has occurred at the point of collection. Parents and carers are usually asked to sign an acknowledgement that they have been given the information. A solid number of staff hold a paediatric first aid certificate.

Children follow sensible hygiene practices in regard to hand-washing. There are clear routines established before meals and snacks, with children being called to wait in line so that the number of children using the facilities are appropriately regulated.

Children are further protected from illness or infection by implementation of the sickness policy, which excludes babies and children who are not well. Children using the crèche (nought to five years) have their physical needs suitably met. Nappy changing procedures are appropriate. Information is shared about feeds and bottles for babies and staff meet their needs and keep them comfortable and content. Young children are encouraged to be physically active inside the crèche. They move freely between different activity areas and have access to some sit-on equipment.

Children aged five to seven (Crazy Gang) benefit from the many opportunities to take part in physical activities and healthy exercise. They follow a full programme of physical activities and games each session.

Information about dietary needs are shared by parents through the registration processes and staff have a clear understanding of individual children's special dietary requirements and allergies. Children learn about healthy eating. Their dietary needs are met well. They are able to choose their lunch from a wide menu of hot and cold meals provided by the leisure centre catering facilities. Snacks are not provided and children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack from home. The group no longer allow children access to the vending machines at snack time. Children are encouraged to drink regularly to replace body fluids through out the day.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a relatively safe environment in which to play as a thorough risk assessment has been carried out. Risks of accidental injury to children have been minimised through the control measures that have been identified, the majority of which are in place. A security system for the crèche is in operation and staff closely monitor access. The crèche has good registration procedures and the collection arrangements ensure children are only released to known adults. Parents are asked to provide passwords and crèche staff are vigilant. Smoke detection equipment is in place and floor areas are free from hazard. Visual safety checks of equipment and of the

physical environment are carried out by staff but are ineffective as not all electric sockets are kept covered and these pose a potential risk to crawling babies and young children.

Children benefit from the thoughtful use of space throughout the crèche. Children in the crèche enjoy free access to a sufficient range of safe furniture, equipment and age appropriate toys to meet their needs. They have access to creative and other resources on request that are additional to those few put out in readiness for them. During busy periods babies are protected from hazard from mobile children by the use of a safety barrier to ensure that they enjoy a suitably safe space. Full fire drills are carried out periodically as part of the whole centres procedures. Room-specific fire drills are also carried out but an accurate record is not kept of when these are undertaken.

Whole centre fire drills are more routinely recorded for the areas used by children aged five to seven (Crazy Gang). Children are suitably supervised at all times, for example, during the swimming sessions a staff member escorts children to the toilets. The holiday play scheme has a sound range of sports equipment for use by the Crazy Gang. There is a suitable range of creative and other materials made available to children. The group also have access to some of the centre's other resources, for example, the floats and water inflatable equipment when using the swimming pools.

Staff have an understanding of child protection issues and know what procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child. Policies and procedures are in place to ensure children's welfare is promoted and new staff are made aware of these through the induction process.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy the wide range of exciting activities which are on offer. They happily endorse the play scheme and comment positively on the different types of physical and creative activities provided. Girls and boys enthuse about the fun and excitement they have during the football and swimming sessions and the wide range of choices they are able to make. Each daily session follows a similar schedule that includes a morning session after registration of physical activity with such things as football, hockey, group and team games, followed by a session in the pool. At lunchtime children have the opportunity to choose quieter activities such as drawing, reading or simply chatting with each other or the friendly staff. A video is put on for children to watch. Some children choose to use their own technology, for example Gameboy. Children express their imagination and creativity through such things as clay modelling, puppet making, dancing, cookery and craftwork. Usually afternoon sessions also provide other fun activities such as a talent show.

Children are encouraged to participate in all activities, including the 'Wet 'n' Wild' sessions in the pool. Children have lots of noisily cheerful fun, swimming, splashing and floating about, with each other and the several members of staff who are in the pool alongside them. Staff interact well with children giving encouragement, drawing children into activities and taking an interest in what they have to say. Children grow in self-care skills as they are encouraged to take responsibility for their own property and possessions.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the clear, consistent and calm boundaries provided by staff and develop positive self-esteem through the praise and encouragement given to them. Children are generally responsive to staff who provide warm interactions. Children generally relate well to each other. The holiday play scheme is keen to provide encouragement to children and to develop further the positive re-enforcement of behaviour. They have plans to introduce a points system for children's achievements which allow children to qualify for small rewards and free sessions.

Children learn about the wider world through a few resources that reflect positive images of race and culture. A few planned activities successfully introduce children to the wider world and to different cultures, for example, a topic is planned on 'food around the world'. Most resources have a universal appeal and are presented without a gender bias. Consideration is given to explore how all children, including those with special needs, are able to fully participate.

The partnership with parents is satisfactory. Initial and subsequent registration processes identify the needs of children. Parents' wishes and preferences are established and their consents are appropriately sought. Information about the proposed schedule of activities is provided to parents. Parents report positively that staff get to know children well and also on the range and choice of activities offered. Parents know that they can readily talk with staff, usually at the point of collection.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by a capable and enthusiastic staff team. Time, space and resources are used constructively to offer children a wide variety of experiences, in a child-friendly, welcoming and generally well-organised environment. Staff and children benefit from senior staff who are enthusiastic and who provide good role models. Children benefit from good adult to child ratios. There is a clear commitment to staff training and to further enhance the knowledge base of staff.

Overall, documentation, policies and procedures are used sufficiently well to promote the welfare and care of children. However, recruitment procedures, although otherwise thorough, do not meet the requirements set out in the October 2005 revision of certain criteria in the National Standards. All staff who work directly with children must have an enhanced level of Criminal Records Bureau disclosure. This is a breach of regulation as newly recruited staff have had only a standard level of disclosure. Ofsted have discussed the circumstances of the breach with the provider.

Registration procedures ensure helpful information is exchanged with parents and carers. Some documentation is inconsistently completed and this has the potential to undermine children's good care, for example, in regard to the record of accidents and in regard to the fire drill log.

The setting 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 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):

- ensure fire drills are regularly carried out and a consistent record kept.
- ensure suitability checks are sufficiently rigorous for all staff and of the appropriate level

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