



Club-V-Virgin Active

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY343420
Inspection date	08 February 2007
Inspector	Arda Halls
Setting Address	Holmes Place Fulham Pools, Lillie Road, LONDON, SW6 7ST
Telephone number	020 74710450
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Registered person	Virgin Active Limited
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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Club-V-Virgin Active Crèche is run by Virgin Active. It opened in 2001 and was taken over by new owners in 2006. The crèche is located on the ground floor of a Sports Centre in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The crèche occupies one main playroom with separate side rooms for sleeping, toilet and nappy changing as well as a small kitchen. A maximum of 18 children may attend the crèche at any one time. The crèche is open each weekday from 09:30 to 13:00 and Saturdays from 09:30 to 12:00 for 52 weeks of the year, closing for Christmas and New Year's day.

There are currently over 500 children aged from six weeks to under five years on roll. Children come from the local community and club members. The crèche currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The crèche employs six staff. All of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. The crèche has no designated outdoor play space. The crèche receives support from the Local Authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's well-being is protected and supported by the staff who are clear on how to keep children healthy. Children follow good personal hygiene routines as they wash their hands before eating their snacks and after using the toilet. However, staff do not consistently clean tables before food is served. Health information is recorded for all children and includes children's medical history and emergency contact details from parents. A sound sick child policy is shared with parents and implemented by staff, children do not attend when they are infectious. The accident book is consistently signed by parents and updated forms are in place to record accidents and incidents that may occur. They are able to make good progress in their physical development as they exercise in the ball pond climbing over the balls and over soft padded shapes, sliding down the slide and triangular padded ramp. They enjoy the physical play which aids their development.

The staff are aware of the need to promote healthy eating. Staff work appropriately with parents to ensure they are aware of any special dietary requirements in the event of children wanting to share other children's food. Children bring healthy snacks from home and have access to fresh drinking water at all times. Staff sit with children at snack time which is a sociable time as children relax and listen to staff talk about their food and how well they are eating.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

The physical environment is organised to ensure that it provides a safe place in which children can play and explore. Security of the building is adequate, ensuring that children cannot leave unsupervised and that uninvited persons cannot gain access. Staff have a sufficient understanding of the procedure to follow in the event of a fire because the procedure is clearly displayed and fire drills are carried out periodically. However, staff are not clear on which exits are designated fire exits. Staff are generally well deployed throughout the crèche and have some knowledge and understanding of their health and safety responsibilities.

There is sufficient furniture for children to rest, eat and play comfortably, for example there are child-size tables & chairs and two cots for children's sleep. Resources are clean and well maintained, floors are clean and walls are brightly decorated which is warm and inviting for children and their families. Posters are displayed at children's viewing level and a parents' notice board is available to display the topics of the week. Equipment around the room is labelled to ensure children begin to make the link between written words and their meaning. Children access resources safely from the tables as they are set out daily in advance of the children's arrival.

Children's welfare is mostly safe-guarded because core staff have a basic knowledge of issues relating to child protection. However, not all staff have a clear understanding of the written policy on child protection. Their knowledge of child protection procedures is not secure which compromises children's overall welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy their time at the setting. They arrive happily and after a brief time of settling are eager to participate in the activities and are making satisfactory progress. Close and caring relationships with staff increase the children's sense of trust and help them develop a strong sense of self. They move around to seek out and retrieve toys within the play room and they explore painting, making circular movements with large brushes as they sit at the activity table. Children are encouraged to wear protective smocks while they paint. They are beginning to make connections between objects and ideas, for example smocks keep you clean and dry, crayons are for drawing and paints are for making marks. They enjoy painting their hands and observing the prints they make.

Young babies imitate others, smiling, giggling and watching the carers. There are no key workers as different children attend the crèche each day. Young children begin to re-enact familiar scenes with small world toys. They pretend to drink tea and ask one another if they want a cup. They play with a stethoscope and listen to the explanation of how it works. They enjoy pretending to listen to their own tummy and pretending to eat the play fruits at the small table and chairs.

Young children are beginning to communicate effectively in a variety of ways. They gurgle and sing, they babble and they point to what they want. Sometimes they cry, especially as parents come and go. They miss their parents and staff are understanding of this and immediately console them.

Children enjoy crawling around the room, they are learning to stand and to be more confident in their walking. They enjoy holding hands with the staff and they move from one activity to another. They are increasing in confidence and are able to practise their walking skills without fear. They are closely supervised and they enjoy their exploring immensely.

Children who are new to the provision sit at the table colouring. Staff sit with them and are skilful in the way they help the children to relax and enjoy their play. Children smile as they are praised and encouraged. Staff organise the play like a pantomime calling out to the children that blue crayons are green and red ones are yellow. The children know this is not right, it makes the children laugh and enjoy themselves.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Young children are developing confidence and self-esteem as they have time to explore independently in this environment. They begin to choose resources independently, babies are given enough attention to encourage them to communicate and under three's are developing

close secure relationships with their carers which supports them to express their beliefs and feelings. Children are learning about the world they live in and the beliefs of other people. They are developing a positive self-image.

All children are cared for on an individual basis. Their care needs are discussed in detail with their parents and staff get to know the children well. The daily routines include enough flexibility to enable young children to have time to follow their own interests for varying lengths of time. There are no children on roll with special needs although staff demonstrate an understanding of meeting their needs. Resources reflecting positive images of disability are limited.

Children's behaviour is reasonable, the atmosphere in the setting is calm and as a result the children are also calm. Staff are consistent in their approach and children understand the expectations of the adults. They learn right from wrong in a supportive environment. Positive praise helps children to understand the benefits of good behaviour from a young age. Although children play on their own for the majority of the time, they are learning to play co-operatively with one another, for example sharing and taking turns.

Relationships with parents are friendly and parents are welcomed into the setting. Children benefit from the sound relationships between staff and parents: parents receive adequate information about the setting and their children's activities. A selection of the new policies and procedures is shared with parents, although most of the policies are not fully available from the new provider. There is a satisfactory procedure in place for recording complaints from parents although there are none to report.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

There is a mixture of policies and procedures from two different registrations and staff are unclear about their roles and responsibilities.

Current staff have been vetted but there are limited procedures in place to appoint new staff. Good ratios of staff work in direct contact with the children to support their care, learning and play.

The organisation of staff and resources contributes positively to children's good health, enjoyment and achievement. Some of the required documentation is in place from the previous provider and is of a satisfactory quality. However, the induction programme is not clear and the registered person has not informed or supported staff sufficiently to make them familiar with the procedures of the setting such as those to follow regarding child protection issues.

Children benefit from qualified and experienced staff who are committed to attending further childcare training and development courses through the new management structure and through the local authority partnership. However, staff are not fully aware of their role and responsibilities, although have a commitment to support children's development.

There are monthly staff meetings to exchange ideas and ten minute updates at the end of every day. Staff appraisals were done every 6 months in the past, staff are uncertain if this will

continue under new management. Children benefit from the combined and accumulated knowledge in the staff team. Most staff hold first aid certificates and have completed child protection training. Several staff have attended managing behaviour courses and some have attended general health and safety awareness training although not recently. Staff regularly attend Early Years training in the local authority such as the Equal Opportunity training attended recently by the manager.

The certificate of registration for Club Virgin is not available or on display on the day of inspection. The setting does not meet the needs of the range of 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put child protection procedures into practice.
- ensure that all policies and procedures relating to day care are readily accessible and available for inspection at all times
- ensure that the current certificate of registration is displayed at all times.

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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