



The Farr Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY338292
Inspection date	19 March 2007
Inspector	Gill Ogden
Setting Address	Farr Community Centre, Chapel Walk, Westgate, WORKSOP, Nottinghamshire, S80 1LR
Telephone number	01909 533610
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Registered person	Bassetlaw Women's Aid 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Farr Centre Crèche was registered in 2006. It is run by Nottinghamshire Women's Aid Limited, formerly Bassetlaw Women's Aid, and operates from the playroom in the purpose built Farr Centre, in Worksop, Nottinghamshire. There is no outdoor play area but the children are taken occasionally to the adjacent park and playing field for relevant activities. The crèche serves the local area and surrounding villages. The setting potentially opens five days a week all year, except Bank Holidays. Sessions are dependant on when courses and workshops run within the Farr Centre, as the crèche is for children of parents and carers who attend the centre.

The crèche is registered to care for a maximum of ten children at any one time. It employs one full-time staff member and a bank of part-time staff to meet ratios. All staff hold an appropriate early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health needs are well catered for in the crèche. Staff consistently follow procedures that contribute towards the maintenance of a healthy environment such as nappy changing and toileting routines that minimise opportunities for cross-infection. Children learn good personal hygiene habits as a result of staff encouraging and supporting them. Parents receive useful written information about contagious illnesses and it is made clear to them that sick children cannot attend because it is detrimental to the health of others. Most staff have current first aid training so any accidents can be dealt with appropriately. Children use the adjacent public playground and park, weather permitting, for large physical play activities, on occasion.

Because the kitchen facilities are used by others the crèche staff are vigilant in ensuring that crockery for the children's snacks are kept separately to further minimise opportunities for cross-infection. Snack times are sociable and help children to develop good table manners. Staff and children enjoy snacks together which are usually fruit and a biscuit. Occasionally children have different things such as some cake that a member of staff's daughter had made for Mother's Day. Children drink mostly water but do have milk and no added sugar squash as well. Drinking water is freely available throughout sessions.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in premises that are suitable and well-maintained. The crèche room is bright and welcoming and posters on the walls notice boards in the corridor display useful information for parents. There are good building security measures in place such as surveillance cameras and intercom controlled access. Staff ensure that the crèche door is kept locked and this is especially important because children are picked up at varying times so staff are in control of who comes in and leaves the room.

All the toys and equipment are in good condition and checked regularly for their suitability. Risk assessments are carried out each time the crèche operates and the playground is used as well as a thorough one being completed each term. All the necessary safety equipment is in place such as gates and safety sockets. Children learn to keep themselves safe through being prompted by staff, however, they have not yet taken part in any emergency evacuation drills. This could potentially be detrimental to their overall safety.

Children are further safeguarded because the staff are very skilled in child protection work. They all receive training in child protection as part of their core training and some have done it recently. They are confident about working with parents in this area.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy and settled in the crèche. They enjoy a variety of activities which they are involved in planning. Staff plan structured activities, often according to the season or festivals, but take their lead from the children in how they follow them through. For example, at the moment they are making Easter baskets and are allowing children to make them in their own time, often over several sessions. Children enjoy activities appropriate to their age and there is a clear protected area for babies to enjoy floor activities safely. Children can freely access a range of play resources and especially enjoy imaginative play. Staff support and encourage children to paint freely, play with sand and use the role play area and small world toys. In this way children have lots of opportunities to experiment, test out their learning and explore their understanding of the world they live in. Children's work is proudly displayed on the walls for everyone to see and good use is made of the displays, often by adding to them. For example, currently there is a display relating to the story 'Kipper's birthday', which the children continue to discuss and complete further.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are welcomed in the crèche and close attention is paid to their backgrounds. Most children attend for a session each week for ten weeks so staff are able to build up a useful picture of them and their families in order to meet their individual needs. They take part in activities related to their own and differing cultures. However, the resources that help them learn to respect all members of society and learn more about the wider world, as part of their everyday play, are limited. Children are involved in any events that are held in the centre, such as International Women's Day when they take part in activities such as belly dancing and drumming. Children with disabilities or learning difficulties are supported well because staff work closely with other agencies and parents and can easily access any specialist equipment locally. Children behave well because staff use positive methods to encourage them. Staff are especially knowledgeable and skilled in observing and identifying the reasons for any undesirable behaviour.

Effective working relationships with parents and carers ensure children's good continuity of care. Parents receive very useful written information about the crèche generally and also about what and how children learn. The availability of a kitchen/diner area allows parents to, for example, enjoy a packed meal with their child after the session and before taking them to nursery school, which is less stressful than having to rush home. Staff fill in a diary sheet for parents that includes information such as what their child has been doing and what they have enjoyed.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The crèche is organised well in the best interests of the children. The registered person and the manager are well aware of their responsibilities and there are solid recruitment and vetting

procedures in place for the appointment of staff. Staff work well together as a team and with the manager to ensure the provision for children is good. All staff are qualified and there are strong systems in place for core training for them. Monthly team meetings and regular supervision and appraisal give staff confidence to do their work well.

All the necessary records are kept accurately and there are checking systems in place to make sure of this. Policies and procedures relate well to the setting and legal requirements. All documentation is stored securely. These systems provide a robust framework for the care of children. Overall, children's needs are met.

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):

- ensure evacuation drills are practised regularly
- increase resources that reflect diversity and the wider world.

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