

Heathfield Concords

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	509716
Inspection date	28 March 2007
Inspector	Julie Biddle
Setting Address	Cobbett Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 6EN
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Registered person	Heathfield Concords
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?

Heathfield Concords opened in 1998. It operates from two large halls within Heathfield Infants School in Whitton. Children attend from both Heathfield Infant and Junior school and Bishop Perrin School. There are currently 53 children from 4 to 11 years on roll. Of these 16 are under 8 years. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The group opens five days a week during school term time. Sessions are from 07:45 - 09:00 before school and 15:30 - 18:00 after school.

There are four full time staff working with the children. Over half of the staff are qualified to NVQ level 2 and 3. The setting is supported by the local authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted as the setting is maintained to a good standard of cleanliness. Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines and staff making

gentle reminders at appropriate times. For example, children are reminded to wash their hands before they eat and after using the toilet. Staff ensure the areas used by the children are clean and safe. One staff member holds a first aid certificate, this means there are occasions when there are no staff present who are trained or knowledgeable in first aid.

Staff are aware of children's dietary needs and food preferences because these are recorded. As a result, children's individual dietary and cultural needs are respected. Food is prepared on site, by staff who hold appropriate food hygiene certificates. Children are able to sit comfortably with their friends and staff to eat tea, as a result children enjoy their meal time as a social event. The staff and children chat about the days events and activities as they enjoy their tea. Children were thoroughly enjoying a healthy tea that included grapes, kiwi fruit, bananas, and sausage rolls. Children are able to independently access drinking water at all times.

Children are developing a positive attitude to exercise which is enjoyed on a daily basis. They have great fun playing a variety of games, such as football and swing ball.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are happy in the setting, they are confident and secure as they select their chosen activity. For example children are given choices of creative, physical or quieter activity. They show a strong sense of belonging as they greet each other and the staff. The hall is arranged to allow children to pursue the interests in which they feel safe and at ease. They have access to a range of good quality toys and equipment appropriate for their age and development.

Children's risk of accidental injury is reduced because staff ensure safety measures are met, for example spilt water is mopped up to prevent slipping. Staff have identified potential risks or dangers and follow efficient and effective procedures for supervision of children. The main door is locked during the session, meaning children are secure and protected when in the setting. Access to setting is through locked gates with a buzzer and CCTV system. Parents sign children out at the end to the session.

Children's welfare is protected by staff's secure knowledge of child protection issues and the procedure to take if they have concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are self-assured and content in the busy welcoming environment. They enjoy a good range of free play, arts and crafts activities, physical play and team games. For example children really enjoy themselves as they played on the trampoline, as they counted "how bounces in a minute." Children have good opportunities to explore a range of play equipment independently and engage in organised activities. Children were having a lovely time as they made fairy castles and painted fairies. Staff encourage the children to be proud of their work by displaying it, meaning parents have the opportunity to see the creative work.

Children are happy, interaction between staff and children is lovely. They laugh, join in games and have fun with them as well as giving support when needed. For example, staff play games such as snooker and swing ball with the children. They have great fun in group activities, they share and take turns very well, for example as they bounce on the trampoline. Staff encourage

older children to help younger children. As a result, children's self-esteem and confidence is very good.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The staff are welcoming to the children, they are valued as individuals. Children learn about the world in which we live through activities such as, Chinese New Year, Valentines day, the World Cup and Easter. Children have access to an varied range of resources that enable them to develop a positive view of diversity within society. Children are encouraged to participate in all the activities provided. Younger and older children get along well together in the relaxed atmosphere. Staff are aware of ensuring younger children are able to participate in activities. They are given reassurance and support when needed, thus ensuring that they feel happy and settled. Children behave well, they understand the boundaries that are set and know what is expected of them. Children are developing good self confidence and enjoy positive relationships with the staff.

Parents and carers receive clear information about the setting when their children start. Parents and carers have the opportunity to share any relevant information with staff to ensure the needs of the child are met. Parents comments on setting include "really happy." Information about each child is gained through parents completing a registration form with all appropriate details. This helps to ensure that children receive continuity of care. A complaints procedure is displayed for parents with information on how to contact the regulator.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are comfortable, confident and at ease in the relaxed atmosphere. The rooms in the setting are arranged to ensure that the toys and resources are easily accessible meaning children can make independent choices. As a result, children are very happy and motivated. Staff are deployed effectively in the setting, they have a clear understanding of their roles. They support the children's play, learning and ensure their safety. Staff hold appropriate child care qualifications, meaning they are confident in meeting the needs of children.

Policies and procedures are put into practice to help ensure that the children are cared for well. Recruitment and vetting procedures are in place. However not all checks were on site on the day of inspection. A daily register is maintained for children, parents sign children out at the end of the session.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to develop an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met. This is now done meaning enough qualified staff are working with the children.

The provider agreed to ensure parents names are recorded on registration forms and parental signatures are recorded in the accident book, this is now done meaning children are safe and protected on site.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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):

- make sure enough staff are trained in first aid to ensure that at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate is on the premises or on outings at any one time
- ensure that all records relating to out of school club and activities are readily accessible and available for inspection at all times

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