



## Childcare Plus - Easterside

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY333837
<b>Inspection date</b>	18 January 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Sandra Davies
<b>Setting Address</b>	SureStart Easterside Community resource Centre, Broughton Avenue, Easterside, Middlesbrough, TS4 3PZ
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<b>Registered person</b>	Sure Start Middlesbrough
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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](http://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?

Child Care Plus - Easterside is a crèche service that is owned by Middlesbrough Borough Council and is run by them in conjunction with local Sure Start Centres. This provision operates from a new Sure Start building next door to the library in the Easterside area of Middlesbrough.

The crèche operates for a maximum of two hours as and when needed, usually when parents are participating in training sessions within the same building. Three rooms are registered to allow for more flexibility. A maximum of 24 children can attend, depending on which room is being used. Only one room is used during any crèche session. There are currently nine children on roll.

The crèche service employs nineteen members of staff to work directly with the children and staffing levels are provided to cover the ratios required at each crèche. All of the staff, including the managers, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children's health, nutritional and physical needs are met because staff follow good procedures and practices. The effective adult support and guidance helps children gain a good understanding of hygiene and the importance of hand washing. Staff hold appropriate first aid qualifications and accidents are recorded.

Children have access to drinking water throughout the session and enjoy fresh fruit at snack time. Their individual needs are taken into account to ensure they remain healthy. Staff talk to children about healthy eating and introduce new fruits for the children to try. This contributes to children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle.

Children engage in activities that help develop their physical skills, for example playing on an indoor climbing frame and slide and using bean bags to practise throwing and catching.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children's risk of accidental injury is minimised in the well-designed setting which has good safety and security precautions. Staff help keep children safe in the crèche because they understand and comply with health and safety requirements and regularly carry out risk assessments.

Children use a good range of safe, good quality and developmentally appropriate resources. These are well organised, in child height furniture, to encourage independent access. Staff explain safe practices, such as not treading on toys. This helps children learn to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe.

Children are well protected. Staff understand their role in child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children arrive happily at the crèche and new children are well supported. They are able to select freely from the activities and resources, and confidently initiate their own play and learning. Staff cover all areas of learning in their planning and are gaining a knowledge and understanding of the 'Birth to three matters' framework, ensuring that children make good progress in their development. Children are able to socialise and learn the importance of sharing and taking turns. There are opportunities for children to take part in physical activity.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Staff value and respect children's individuality, ensuring they have sufficient information to give individual care. Children are able to access some resources and activities which promote positive images of the wider community.

Staff encourage children to understand responsible behaviour and play harmoniously with others. The staff act as good role models and manage behaviour well, promoting children's self-esteem and confidence.

Trusting partnerships have been established with parents which helps to promote children's well-being, development and progress. Information from parents is shared and used effectively to ensure that children's individual needs are met. However, parents' access to the inspection report is limited.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The care that children receive is enhanced by the good quality of organisation. The rigorous vetting procedure, followed by a comprehensive induction, promotes the children's care and learning. The premises are well organised. The room is well appointed for self-selection and space is laid out to maximise play opportunities for children.

Children benefit from well qualified and skilled staff who are committed to continuous improvement and development through further training.

All required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well-being is in place. However, the registration certificate is not displayed. There are effective systems in place for the sharing of information with parents which contributes to the continuity in the child's care. Overall, the provision 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 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:

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## 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 that parents have the opportunity to access a copy of the inspection report
- ensure that the registration certificate is displayed when the creche is operating.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)