



Club V - Virgin Active

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 321054

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Registered person Club V - Virgin Active

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?

Club V - Virgin Active Crèche is an organisation run by the Company Virgin. It opened in 1999 and operates from five rooms set within the Virgin Active gym and health club, which is located in the Kirkstall area of Leeds. A maximum of 30 children may attend the crèche at any one time. The crèche is open seven days a week, all year round from 09:00 hours to 20:00 hours throughout the week, and 09:00 to 17:00 hours on weekends. Children attend for a variety of sessions for up to two hours.

There are variable numbers of children on roll, aged from birth to eight years. The crèche serves families who use the gym facilities. The crèche supports children with

special needs, and who speak English as an additional language.

The crèche employs 16 staff. Of these 9 including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. There are 2 staff working towards a suitable qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the good arrangements provided for food and drink. All children have access to and are provided with fresh drinking water during the day. All staff are suitably familiar with the health and hygiene procedure but this is not sufficiently fostered with the children. Children are not taught hygiene from an early age and poor attention is given to the cleanliness of toys and equipment.

Babies are given good opportunities to be active and rest, they feel protected as they are nourished. For example, babies are given cuddles as the staff bottle feed them. The older children benefit from the well organised health and fitness programme devised by the staff. They are developing control of their whole bodies through the variety of physical activities provided. For example, children kick a ball through a net and throw bean bags. The children are excited as they enter the soft play room. They slide down the slide, jump in the ball pool and run on the soft matting.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is outstanding.

Children are eager to attend this dynamic setting and relish their time in the vibrant, warm and welcoming environment which puts their safety first. They learn to keep themselves and others safe and avoid accidental injury. For example, children know they are to remove their shoes when playing in the soft play area. The children are given excellent opportunities to practice what they can do in safe surroundings and learn some sense of danger. For example one child tells her friend not to slide down the big slide because it is too scary.

The children are very safe as a result of the excellent security provided. For example, the building has a very secure key pad system to prevent unwanted visitors and a pass word system is in place to ensure the safe collection of all children. The children enjoy moving about freely as they play with the stimulating range of easily accessible toys and equipment provided for them. Children under two years are given excellent opportunities to use other areas in the premises. For example, the vibrant soft play room which they thoroughly enjoy visiting.

The children are protected because the staff have an excellent understanding of 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 are happy and settled in their environment. They show keen interest in what they do, for example, enthusiastically climbing the nets and running through the corridor of the soft play matting. The children are motivated and interested in the broad range of physical activities provided. These are challenging and appropriate to their age and stage of development. Children show excitement in their achievements as they eagerly show parents their certificate.

The children aged under two years skilfully make decisions about their play and learning as they choose from a good range of activities. Babies explore their immediate environment, they enjoy being physically close to other children and familiar adults. They sample objects and quickly make sense of what they feel and touch. The children take the lead in play and are provided with very good opportunities to develop competence in creativity. For example, they decide to build a pirate ship using the large shapes in the soft play room. They appropriately use language as a means of sharing feelings, experiences and thoughts, with each other and adults.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children have a strong sense of belonging and benefit from the staffs commitment to working in partnership with their parents. For example, the parents are given a verbal report at the end of each session with regard to what their children have done during their two hour stay. There is a daily system to exchange information between parents and staff, including changing care plans, developmental needs and routines. The children happily play with the range of resources provided, some which reflect the diversity of the local community. There are proactive measures in place to effectively supported children with special needs.

Children are very well behaved. Babies are able to contribute to secure relationships with adults who actively listen and give them their full attention when they try to communicate. For example, staff sit on cosy cushions with babies on their lap, they gain eye contact and talk to the babies who respond by smiling and staring contentedly.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The children's care is enhanced by the efficient and effective organisation of the crèche. They fully profit from the knowledge and experience of the staff, who strongly promote their well-being and support their development potential.

The manager has a clear vision for her setting and has devised information for parents with regard to this. The children positively benefit from policies and

procedures which are individual to the setting. The manager takes some reasonable steps with regard to informing the registered body of changes and staff child ratios are met. However, Ofsted have not been informed of all staff changes.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection there were a few recommendations relating to activities and one action with regard to safety. The provider has implemented activity sheets so staff can plan what resources to use. They have developed opportunities for young children to access a wide range of sensory experiences for example, through the provision of water, sand and other resources. All staff are fully aware of their responsibility to protect children in their care and systems are in place to make the parents aware of the child protection policy. The children now benefit from a good range of activities to promote their all round development and are safer in their environment through knowledge gained by the staff.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 staff actively promote good hygiene practices with the children and devise an action plan with regard to maintaining the cleanliness of toys and equipment
- make sure Ofsted are informed of all staff changes.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website:

