



Bannatyne Fitness Ltd Creche

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	254004
Inspection date	02 June 2005
Inspector	Rosalie Mary Turner

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Registered person	Bannatyne Fitness Ltd Creche
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Bannatyne Fitness Ltd Crèche opened in 1999. It operates from a dedicated area of a private, members only health club situated on the outskirts of the city of Norwich. The club serves a wide area of the county of Norfolk.

There are currently 148 children from 5 months to 4 years 11 months on roll. A maximum of 16 children may attend the crèche at any one time, for a maximum of three hours while their carers remain in the building.

The crèche opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 09:00 until

12:30 and 13:00 until 14:30.

Four part-time staff work with the children. All the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are protected from the spread of infection because staff maintain acceptable hygiene standards. For example, all areas of the crèche, the toys and equipment are clean and well maintained. However, the tables are not wiped with an anti-bacterial spray before the children have a snack and they do not always wash their hands before eating. Consequently, children are not helped to understand the importance of personal hygiene, as a means of preventing the spread of germs.

Children are not able to access an outdoor play environment, but they enjoy crawling through the tunnel, kicking a soft ball and using the ball tent within the play room to improve their physical skills. Babies have suitable support to manipulate musical toys or try out new skills as they climb on the soft play shapes. As a result, children are learning to gain control over their bodies.

Children are encouraged to take regular drinks as a way to maintain their health. Parents supply their children's snacks and provide nourishing options such as fruit or raisins that promote children's healthy growth and development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are helped to separate from their carers through the warm and friendly welcome that they receive from the staff. The child-centred room, with displays of children's art work and plenty of accessible toys, is attractive to the children. The background music is especially soothing for younger children, therefore they settle quickly.

Children use a wide range of good quality, well maintained equipment. The staff monitor children's choices to ensure that toys are not only suitable for their stage of development but are used correctly. Consequently, children learn to respect the resources and are able to play safely.

Children are secure and able to play confidently because hazards, such as those from low level electrical sockets and glass, have been identified and minimised within the rigorous risk assessment. Children are learning to keep themselves safe. For example, they practise fire drills to help them understand the importance of escaping quickly in an emergency.

Children are very well protected by staff who have a clear understanding of the

procedures to follow if they have concerns that a child may be at risk of harm. Children's welfare is safeguarded because staff are able to recognise the signs of possible abuse. They keep child protection guidance to hand so that they are able to act quickly if they are worried.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy their time in the crèche. They get on well with the staff who are kind and sensitive in their approach to them. Staff are interested in what the children do and join in with their play. As a result, children are beginning to relate to each other. For example, a toddler shows pleasure when a different child arrives and they play alongside each other happily, with suitable adult encouragement.

Children are learning right from wrong because they are able to model their behaviour on the staff's acceptable examples. For instance, staff are polite and consistent in applying boundaries and they explain why they ask children to change their behaviour.

Children are provided with a balance of self chosen play together with adult directed activities. They are helped to develop their skills because the staff sit with the children to support their play. Staff chat to the children and talk about what they are doing to promote learning. However, staff do not meet to discuss or evaluate the activities they offer. Some staff are not aware of 'Birth to Three Matters' framework to help them to adapt activities, to promote younger children's learning. Consequently, children are not always able to take part in play that is sufficiently varied to offer suitable challenges.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are given a positive view of the wider world through the worthwhile range of resources, such as dolls, books and displays, that reflect our multi-cultural society. In particular, children are learning to understand and respect people from all backgrounds, because the staff oppose prejudice and discrimination.

Children of all abilities are helped to reach their full potential through the staff's commendable awareness of child development. Staff are supported by effective procedures that enable them to act quickly to ensure children receive suitable help.

Children have maximum opportunities to develop their personal independence as they make choices within their play, self select toys and materials and access the toilets independently. Children are beginning to share toys with valuable staff support. For example, they co-operate well when using the play dough and hand tools.

Children behave well. They are helped to manage their own behaviour through the staff's consistent use of diversion and distraction. Staff do not reward unwanted

behaviour with attention but they are quick to praise children when they behave well. As a result, children are learning what is acceptable and what is not.

Relationships with parents are strong. Children's individual needs are able to be met because the staff record children's personal details and respect parents' wishes for their care. In addition, staff chat to parents informally as they deliver and collect their children, to ensure that they remain up to date with their requirements. As a result, children benefit from care that is appropriate to their current needs.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children's well-being is supported because all of the staff are suitably trained and have a sound understanding of how young children develop. They have information to hand to encourage them to update their knowledge and skills and some staff are planning to renew their first aid training.

Children are safeguarded by some worthwhile policies and procedures. However, the practices for staff induction are not sufficiently robust to ensure that staff effectively learn about the way the crèche operates. In addition there are no formal opportunities for staff to share information about the day-to-day running of the setting or any issues that may arise regarding children's individual needs. Consequently, children's welfare, care and learning may not be always fully supported.

Most of the legally required documentation is suitably maintained to promote children's well-being. However, children are unable to be fully protected because the register of attendance does not always reflect the names of people who visit the crèche.

The crèche reviews its registration records to ensure that children continue to be cared for according to parents wishes.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

The previous inspection recommended that the crèche ensures all parents are aware of the details of the complaints policy, especially to whom their concerns should be addressed.

Parents are encouraged to access all crèche policies, including the complaints procedure. They are also provided with a complaints form that refers to Ofsted as the regulator. Therefore parents now have the opportunity to make their concerns known and for them to be appropriately acted upon. As a result, the crèche is better able to meet the needs of the children for whom it provides care .

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 satisfactory. 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 good hygiene practices are in place regarding snack times
- review induction practices, to ensure that they effectively inform staff about the way the crèche operates
- develop opportunities for staff to exchange information to support children's welfare, care and learning and to monitor the play programme.

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: www.ofsted.gov.uk