

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	113342
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Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Full day 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre Play Scheme opened in 1998 and operates from the leisure centre in Storrington. A maximum of 90 children may attend at any one time. The play scheme is open each weekday from 08:30 to 17:00 Monday through to Friday throughout the school holidays. All children share access to an outdoor play area.

There are currently 60 children aged from five to under eight years on roll. Children attend from the local and surrounding area. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

The play scheme employs 15 staff. Of these no staff hold an appropriate early years qualifications and one staff member is working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The areas used by children are maintained in a clean and hygienic condition to ensure that they are suitable for children to use. Liquid soap and paper towels are accessible to children in the toilet area for children to wash their hands. However, staff do not always encourage children to wash their hands before food to encourage good hygiene practices.

Parents give prior written consent to administer medication that ensures children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. A staff member is not present within the play scheme at all times that who a relevant first aid certificate. This means they may not be able to give appropriate care if there is an accident.

Staff gather all relevant information regarding diet and medical history. This ensures children's individual dietary and medical needs are met. Children are offered regular drinks throughout the day. However, drinking water is not accessible for children to freely help themselves. This does not encourage children to think about their personal needs. Children do not receive healthy snacks and are able to purchase sweets on a daily basis from the tuck shop. No healthy alternatives are offered to children. This means opportunities for children to develop healthy eating habits from a young age are limited. The setting has a policy in place that means parents take responsibility for the effective storage of food provided in their child's lunch boxes to prevent spoiling.

Children engage in a wide range of physical activities that contribute to a healthy life style. They enjoy participating in team games which are adapted to ensure all children attending are fully included. The play scheme organises specialist days for children of all abilities to come along to, for example gymnastic days which are operated by qualified instructors.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from playing in a suitably organised environment. This allows them to move around freely and independently. Children use a suitable range of equipment, toys and resources appropriate to their age and stage of development.

There are regular risk assessments both indoors and outdoors undertaken that help staff to identify and address any potential hazards. For example, by employing appropriate staff trained in specific sports to ensure children are coached professionally and appropriately to minimise risk of injury and by ensuring visual checks are made on equipment to be used by children prior to them having access. However, staff do not ensure children's safety when accessing the public toilets as the areas are not checked by staff prior to children entering to ensure they are safe and appropriate for them to use. Regular fire drills are held to help children and staff become familiar with the procedures so that they can learn how to leave the premises quickly and safely. No record of visitors is maintained by the setting to ensure a clear record of all persons having access to areas used by the children.

Staff are aware of child protection policies and understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns. This helps staff to recognise when a child is in danger and act in the child's best interest.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff are suitably deployed within the gymnasium area, supervising children at all times. They offer the children lots of positive interaction and children show concern for one another indicating positive relationships being gained. For example, younger child completing a netball type activity having to throw the ball and score. One team had a younger child who found this activity difficult. Children in the team encouraged and praised the younger child's efforts as the child tried to net the ball. Adults adapted the activity so that the child could achieve. Through this the child's confidence grew and the child became thoroughly involved in the activity.

Children have a wide range opportunities to either join the play scheme for the day where they complete a range of activities or to attend a gymnastics day, which is more structured and focuses on teaching children by qualified instructors. Children attending the gymnastics day complete a range of fun warm up activities before they started to use the range of equipment. Staff are well deployed and give children clear instructions about what they needed to do to learn how to move appropriately and to use the range of equipment safely. Children were able to concentrate well on the gymnastics that they were completing and moved around the different areas confidently. Adults showed children how to use equipment from basic movements on mats, progressing within each child's own ability to extend the activity. Adults successfully adapted activities to ensure inclusion for all children. They explained to children clearly when they had not quite mastered a movement how they could succeed and gave lots of praise and encouragement to all children for their achievements.

Staff give clear instructions to children before each team game to ensure children understand the rules and are able to play a full role in the game. For example, tag rugby. An adult explained the rules of the game and introduced appropriate language relating to the sport. The adult set up a simple game with the rugby ball that encouraged children to learn how to throw and catch a rugby ball properly to each other and to touch down.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy suitable relationships with adults which promotes their confidence and self-esteem. Adults confidently adapt activities to ensure all children are included and involved in all activities. Children show concern for each other and support each other in their day to day play. Some activities are organised to give children opportunities to understand and appreciate other cultures. This helps children to develop a positive attitude towards diversity. The provision for children and adults with physical disabilities is suitable. Staff gather all relevant information about children before they attend to ensure their individual needs are met.

Staff offer children appropriate praise and encouragement for their positive behaviour. Children are well motivated and interested in the range of activities that are available to them. They are well supervised when in the gymnasium area and staff interact positively with them at all times encouraging and praising children's efforts. Minor disagreements are dealt with efficiently by staff, who talk with children about why the behaviour is not acceptable. Children show concern for each other and support younger children in the setting so that they are included in activities.

The partnership with parents is satisfactory. Staff make themselves available for informal discussion at the beginning and end of each session. This helps to ensure children receive individual care and attention.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff work well as a team. They are deployed effectively when children are in the gymnasium area. However, they do not ensure children are well supervised at all times as they do not supervise children sufficiently when accessing the toilet area. Children receive suitable support from staff who know them well. Recruitment and induction system for staff are in place and an appraisal system is completed that identifies training needs. However, insufficient qualified staff are employed to the required level and no action plan is in place to show how this will be achieved. Staff have however; undertaken sports based training, have relevant experience of working with young children and are adequately briefed about their role and duties.

All documentation required for the safe and effective management of the setting is not in place. Accident records maintained are not dated or confidential, the attendance register does not clearly identify when children are present and no visitor's record is maintained. This does not contribute to the welfare of the children. The setting does not have a clear understanding of informing Ofsted of significant events and changes, which is their responsibility to ensure all relevant information regarding the safe and efficient running of the setting is maintained. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection two recommendations were set. One, to obtain written permission from parents before administering medication and gain parental signatures in the accident book. Secondly to ensure all staffing details and their clearances are in place.

Parents give prior written consent to administer medication that ensures children receive the correct dosage according to their needs. Accident records are signed by parents ensuring they are kept fully informed of any accidents a child might have whilst in the settings care. Clear procedures are in place to ensure suitable records are maintained on all staff working with children to make sure they are suitable for the role.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the 1st April 2004 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 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 children have access to fresh drinking water at all times and develop systems to provide healthy and nutritious snacks for children
- ensure at least one member of staff working with children at all times holds a relevant first aid certificate that includes first aid for infants and young children
- develop good hygiene practices that promotes hand washing before meals
- develop systems to ensure children are appropriately supervised when accessing the toilet area
- update documentation to ensure records are clearly maintained at all times
- ensure Ofsted is notified of any significant events or changes that take place
- develop an action plan to show how you intend to meet staff qualification requirements.

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