

Fun 4 Kidz Mobile Crèche - Hatton Hill Children's Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY344285
Inspection date	05 July 2007
Inspector	Elizabeth Margaret Grocott
Setting Address	Hatton Hill Children's Centre, Alwyn Avenue, Litherland, Merseyside, L21 9NZ
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Registered person	Fun 4 Kidz
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?

Fun for Kidz Mobile Crèche - Hatton Hill Children's Centre has been registered since 2006 and is one of 12 settings operated by an organisation. It operates from a self-contained unit, which consists of a playroom and separate domestic facilities that is attached to the Hatton Hill Children's Centre, situated in the Litherland area of Liverpool. A maximum of eight children may attend the setting at any one time and there are currently 22 children on roll. Children come from a wide catchment area as parents attend the centre to participate in a range of courses and other services run at the centre. The crèche operates as and when required, seven days a week. The crèche employs 10 members of staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well protected as staff have a secure knowledge of the crèche's procedures to meet their needs in first aid and sickness. Staff hold relevant first aid certificates which enables them to administer first aid in the event of an accident. Medicine and accident records are

maintained appropriately and information regarding children's health is obtained from parents, to enable individual care to be given. Staff ensure that the setting is clean and cross-infection is minimised by regular checking of equipment and cleaning of tables before snacks and after activities. Younger children are able to rest or sleep in line with their individual needs and parents' wishes.

Children share healthy options, such as fruit for snacks, drinks are always available and staff regularly remind children to drink water during hot weather. Children do not have access to an outdoor play area, although this is planned for the future. Their physical developmental needs are met indoors through the use of small apparatus.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from playing in an organised environment. They show interest in the range of activities and resources on offer and enthusiastically make choices on their arrival. A good staff to child ratio is maintained and staff work effectively together to ensure children are well cared for. Children enjoy the resources provided, however, the range of equipment is limited. Children are not provided with positive images of diversity and resources that help them to appreciate similarities and differences. This means children's play and learning is not maximised. Babies and very young children do not have suitable chairs to sit in, nor are there any safety restraints. Babies sit on their parents' knees to take part in an art activity, reducing their ability to explore fully.

Although the staff carry out risk assessments of the premises, they do not effectively identify and minimise potential hazards in terms of safety in an emergency situation. Emergency evacuation procedures have not been practised. The staff are not clear about how they would evacuate the youngest children and think they may put them all in the travel cot. They are also not sure whether any staff from the children's centre would come to help them. This puts children at risk. Staff ensure children are unable to leave the premises without a suitable adult and supervise children closely at all times.

Staff are confident in their knowledge of child protection and have supporting documents in place, including a confidential system to record any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children in the crèche, benefit from the planned programme that is offered to them each session. The range suits the interests and abilities of children who attend. Staff have a sound awareness of the 'Birth to three matters' framework, and develop their planning in line with this. This has a positive effect on the younger children's enjoyment. Planning is based around themes across the year linking in with the children's centre themes. Staff make observations of children during their play, linking these to the framework. Children enjoy using cars and trucks in the paint and making tracks on paper, exploring treasure baskets and making play dough. They also have fun making handprints in paint. They are gaining new skills as they take part in creative activities.

Staff are attentive to children's needs and demonstrate good relationships with them and their parents. Children develop confidence and self-esteem because of the positive relationships with the staff. They make experiences enjoyable and meaningful for the children, which in turn

aids their concentration and confidence to participate. Children are receptive to praise and encouragement that is provided by staff. This has a clear impact on their self-esteem and encourages them to try new tasks and participate with enthusiasm.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy, relaxed and at ease within their surroundings because staff welcome them happily and ensure they feel settled and secure. Staff have positive attitudes and present themselves as caring role models which in turn helps children relate to others and gain a positive understanding of the needs of others. A detailed equal opportunities policy ensures that children and families are treated fairly and with respect. Children show a sense of belonging and are familiar with the routines and what is available. However, their opportunities to develop a respect for difference are restricted by the absence of play resources reflecting positive images of cultural diversity and disability.

Children respond positively to the boundaries that are in place and behave well. All families are warmly welcomed into the setting and are provided with clear information including the crèche's policies and procedures. Good information is gained from parents regarding children's individual needs. This helps to ensure they receive appropriate care whilst attending the crèche. Parents are pleased with the service that they receive and describe staff as professional and friendly. An appropriate procedure is in place to record any complaints made, regarding the care that is provided.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities to the children and parents and for the continued safe and successful operation of the group. Activities and space are suitably organised to ensure children can access the range of play opportunities on offer. Staff are deployed effectively so they spend most of their time interacting with the children. Staff are committed to improvement and development, which has a positive impact on children's care. A continuous appraisal system addresses any training issues that are required.

Policies and procedures are in place and generally well implemented to keep children healthy and safeguard their welfare. However, not all records pertaining to the care of children are available for inspection. 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 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):

- improve the range and quality of equipment and furniture for the ages and stages of development of children present; provide resources and positive images to help children appreciate and value similarities and differences of culture, gender and disability
- review the risk assessment of all areas used, with particular regard to fire evacuation, practise an evacuation as soon as is reasonably practical, in line with the fire safety officer's recommendations
- ensure records pertaining to the care of children are 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