

Club-V - Virgin Active

Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | EY343154 |
| Inspection date | 08 August 2007 |
| Inspector | Martha Naa Ahimah Darkwah |
| Setting Address | 119 Lancaster Road, LONDON, W11 1QT |
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| Registered person | Virgin Active Limited |
| 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?

The Club-V Crèche is one of 40 nurseries run by Virgin Active. The crèche is privately owned by Virgin Active. It opened in 2006 and operates from two rooms in a sports facility in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. A maximum of 20 children may attend the crèche at any one time.

The crèche is exclusively for club members. It is open seven days a week from 9:00 to 17:00 all year except public holidays. Children may attend the crèche for one visit per day up to two hours. There is no access to an outdoor play area.

A total of 179 children are on roll. The crèche employs six staff. Of these, five including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The child centred crèche environment is kept clean to a very good standard to help safeguard children's health. The children are very confident and understand the importance of maintaining good personal hygiene through their daily routines. They know that it stops germs spreading when they wash their hands before handling food, before eating and after using the toilet. Staff members provide attractive visual aids in the bathroom for children to learn to wash their hands properly. For example, they wash the front and back of hands, use lots of soap and wash their hands for 15 seconds and dry them with paper towels.

Children's health is very well supported by staff members that are trained in first aid and emergency procedures. Staff follow good procedures to ensure that children who become ill while attending the crèche receive appropriate attention and that their parents are informed. Children are well protected from illness and cross infection because of the staff member's understanding of good hygiene procedures. A clear and well written sick-child policy is available and shared with parents. Good records and procedures are in place for first aid, accidents and medication administered, which ensures children are well cared for.

Children sit in small groups to enjoy a variety of healthy foods in a relaxed and social atmosphere, which fosters their social skills and promotes good manners. Staff members are aware of children's dietary needs and food preferences because these are discussed with parents. As a result, children's individual dietary and cultural needs are taken into account. Drinking water is available in a jug at all times for children to help themselves. Children know the benefits of drinking water especially during hot weather and when exercising, because staff explain to the children why they need to drink so that they do not become dehydrated.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities which contribute to their good health and wellbeing. Staff organise fun group games for the children, for example, children enjoy catching ball games, and a variety of team games. They understand the importance of taking regular exercise as a way to maintain a healthy lifestyle. For example, both boys and girls have a great time playing team games, they laugh with great excitement as they pass the football to their peers with a great sense of achievement especially, when the staff members praise them for doing this very well.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a child focused environment. They are very happy in the setting. They show a strong sense of belonging as they interact with each other and staff with warmth and feeling. The crèche room is bright and welcoming for children. Good use is made of the indoor space to create a safe haven for the younger children. Vigorous and quieter activities are arranged in the over twos area to allow older children to pursue interests in which they feel safe and at ease.

Children have access to a wide range of good quality toys and equipment, which are appropriate for their age and development. Activities are carefully selected and planned in advance to ensure that they are suitable for the children.

Children's risk of accidental injury is reduced because staff members ensure safety measures are met. For example, toys and equipment are checked on a regular basis to reduce any hazards. Staff members conduct regular written risk assessments and a number of safety policies and procedures are in place to further protect the wellbeing of the children. A well organised registration and signing in and out system ensures children are safely accounted for. All electrical appliances show the current date of inspection and maintenance in line with Health and Safety Executive requirements. However, young children are not adequately prevented from having access to the store room where toys and other equipment and materials are stored at low level.

Children are effectively supervised as correct ratios are maintained and staff are effectively deployed indoors and when on outings. Staff's vigilant observation ensures children are collected by the authorised person. Children are learning about staying safe. They are aware of evacuating the building in an emergency because they are part of regular fire drills with staff. A good record of this is kept in sufficient detail.

Children's welfare is safeguarded through the staff's good understanding and knowledge of child protection matters. Staff members are knowledgeable about the signs and symptoms of abuse and what procedures to follow should they have concerns about the wellbeing of a child. There are clear procedures in place if an allegation is made against a member of staff or a volunteer to help protect children further.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Young children are beginning to make sense of and respond to different sensory experiences because staff members are skilled in interacting with babies and providing suitable challenges and support to help them make progress. For example, young babies have good opportunities to learn new skills and practise them everyday. They communicate in various ways, for example, gurgling, babbling and squealing through interaction with the staff.

Younger and older children are enjoying the benefits of an active, healthy life style. Children are full of energy and take much pleasure in being active. For example, carefully structured physical activities help boost children's confidence and learning through excitement, play and laughter. These include sensory activities, music and movement, fun fitness play sessions which teach children foot and eye co-ordination, drills and skills. Staff members are very good role models to children as they lead and organise wide ranging fun games for the children based on their interests and abilities. They are well supported by staff members who are skilled at encouraging them to extend their experiences by listening and talking with them. Children have easy access to a range of activities and play with natural materials, sand and water.

Members of staff are highly motivated and enthusiastic, and this is evident as activities are very well presented, and capture children's interest. Staff members interact very well with the children. They laugh, join in games and have fun with them as well as giving support when needed. Members of staff actively encourage children to talk about the things that interest them and what they are doing. Consequently, the children are very confident to approach them and express their needs.

Children are kind and considerate towards each other and they play well together. They have a great time playing a variety of games together. Children are very good at deciding their roles and sharing ideas as they engage in creative work.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are happy because their individual needs are met effectively. The crèche is welcoming to children. It provides them with good opportunities to socialise with others in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. The setting welcomes children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Staff members provide activities and resources that positively represent the children who attend as well as the wider community. This helps children to develop a very positive image of themselves and others. Children are learning about the world they live in and the beliefs of other people, as they enjoy taking part in various cultural festivals. For example, activities are organised for the positive celebration of Christmas, Halloween and Easter.

Children's behaviour is good. They work well and play a variety of games and are able to co-operate, take turns and share. This is helped by the clear rules, simple explanations and the gentle encouragement of the staff to resolve minor disputes. Staff are appropriate role models and set good examples for the children. Staff members know the children well and enjoy their company. Staff members have a great deal of respect for the children and this is evident in the children's behaviour. Staff members show profound interest in what the children have to say, of their thoughts and feelings. They praise the children regularly for their efforts and achievements thereby developing the children's self-confidence and self esteem.

Parents are greeted warmly by staff, and have opportunity to share any relevant information to ensure the needs of their child are met. Parents and children gave very positive feedback when questioned. For example, parents are very happy with the care and attention their children receive; children said that they enjoy coming to the crèche, like the staff members who treat them like stars and enjoy playing with their friends. Children from a variety of backgrounds and children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are warmly welcomed into the play scheme. They develop a positive attitude to others because staff members plan a variety of sports and games that positively represent the interest of children who attend and those from the wider community.

Children benefit greatly from the continuity of care because staff share and exchange relevant information with parents about their child. The setting has a good system in place to record any complaints made by parents relating to the National Standards and take positive steps to address them. This promotes good relationships between staff and parents.

Organisation

The organisation is outstanding.

The owner and manager are fully committed to the promotion of high quality childcare. This is done systematically through robust recruitment systems of employing suitably qualified staff with sufficient skills and experience. Staff members are actively encouraged to attend relevant courses to increase their knowledge and enhance their skills. Children's care is enhanced by the effective organisation of the crèche. Staff members are well deployed and ensure that all children are happily engaged in purposeful activities.

Staff meetings are held regularly to ensure staff members have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities and focus on the individual needs of the children. Line management meetings also meet regularly to discuss strengths and areas they wish to improve, which helps greatly to benefit the children. Additionally, staff members follow a development plan and

receive in-house training in line with management's high expectations of the staff members in how they carry out their duties.

Record keeping is a key strength at this setting. Records are stored securely in a locked cupboard. They are extremely well-organised, reviewed and updated as legislation changes. All of the required documentation is in place and implemented well to support children's health, safety and wellbeing. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures are in place, thus ensuring that children are protected and cared for by staff members who have knowledge and understanding of child development.

Children's overall care, learning and welfare are promoted as relevant information about the children's individual needs is gathered from parents. As a result, the care is provided in accordance with parents' wishes. Staff members have more written information available to parents so they are further informed on the care, routines, achievements and progress the children make. For example, the daily session report sheets have evidence of ongoing communication between the parents and staff to meet the children's needs.

The setting meets the needs of the range of 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

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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 young children are adequately prevented from having access to the store room

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