

Shepherds Bush Families Project

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	143805
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Inspector	Martha Naa Ahimah Darkwah
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Registered person	The Committee of Shepherds Bush Families Project
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Sessional 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?

Shepherds Bush Families Project, Playgroup and Crèche opened in June 1992. Both operate from a large community building close to the centre of Shepherds Bush.

The setting provides sessional day care for children from the local community or families where there is a housing need and crèche care for children whilst parents are attending Adult Education classes. The playgroup session is from 09.15 to 12.15 Monday to Friday. The crèche takes place every afternoon from 12.15 to 14:30, Monday to Thursday to support adult education classes during term time only.

The setting supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities and children with English as an additional language.

There are 22 children on roll. The setting employs five members of staff including the manager. All the staff members are qualified in early year's childcare to levels two or three.

The playgroup does not have access to an outdoor play area but children are taken to local parks.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The environment is clean and staff members follow systems to help safeguard children's health. The children are very confident and understand the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines. For example, they know that it stops germs spreading when they wash their hands before a cooking activity, eating and after using the toilet. Some staff members have valid first aid certificates and clear policies and procedures are in place for first aid and accidents. This is consistently implemented by staff, thereby helping to ensure children are looked after appropriately.

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 needs are taken into account. Snacks are provided and offer children healthy choices. For example, at snack time children enjoy a variety of cut fruit available to encourage children to try and develop a positive approach to healthy eating. Children and staff sit together at the table, which creates a lovely social atmosphere. Staff members encourage the children to chat to each other, which helps towards promoting children's social skills. They have drinks at snack time. However, children do not have access to drinking water throughout the day when they are thirsty.

Children have sound opportunities indoors for physical exercise and play. They exert lots of energy as they play different physical games and activities. Children thoroughly enjoy taking part in the range of activities which support their physical development and encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a child focused environment. They are happy in the setting and enter with great confidence and make themselves at home. The hall is arranged to allow children to pursue their individual interests in which they feel safe and at ease. They have access to a satisfactory range of 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 written risk assessments and safety policies and procedures are in place to further protect the wellbeing of the children. They are effectively supervised as correct and higher ratios are maintained and staff members are effectively deployed. For example, younger children are escorted to the toilet for their safety. Children are learning about staying safe when they walk to the local park following road safety guidelines. Children enjoy singing animated songs linked to safety on the road. This helps to reinforce road safety issues on their minds.

Children's welfare is safeguarded through the staff's sound understanding and knowledge of child protection matters. There are clear procedures to follow should they have concerns about the wellbeing of a child. However, it is not in sufficient detail regarding what steps will be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are confident and well-settled in the setting. A strong rapport is established between the children and staff. They interact well with the children; they laugh, join in games and have fun with them as well as giving support when needed. Consequently, the children are confident to approach them and express their needs.

Staff members plan in advance following the Birth to three matters framework. Children are happy and eager to participate in the activities provided and concentrate well on their activities. Children have good opportunities to explore a range of play equipment independently and engage in organised activities. They are able to relax and choose, for example, either craft activities, imaginative play, reading or vigorous play, depending on their individual needs and interests. Children enjoy singing songs and rhythms as they join in dancing and singing with great delight and laughter. Children are kind and considerate towards each other and young and older children play well together.

Staff members spend most of their time involved in children's activities and engage in playful conversations as they extend children's play experiences. They have fun making sandwiches with different choice of fillings and enjoying these later.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

The setting is welcoming to children and families, where they have good opportunities to socialise with others in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Children enjoy mutually respectful relationships with staff and each other. They develop self-esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions and make choices and decisions.

Staff members provide satisfactory activities and resources that positively represent the children who attend as well as the wider community. This helps children to develop a positive image of themselves and others.

Children's behaviour is satisfactory. They play well together and are able to co-operate and share. Staff show interest in what the children have to say, of their thoughts and feelings, and they are praised regularly for their efforts and achievements developing children's self-confidence.

Parents are greeted warmly by staff, and have the opportunity to share any relevant information with them to ensure the needs of the child are met. Information about each child is gained through staff completing a registration form with parents. This helps to ensure that children receive continuity of care. Policies and procedures are displayed in a file for parents to view which helps towards ensuring children are protected and their welfare is promoted. Parents gave positive feedback when questioned. For example, they are happy with the care and attention their children receive from the friendly staff and the additional family services they enjoy in the centre.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The environment is welcoming and the space available is used well to ensure children can play comfortably with the toys and equipment. Children are happy and enjoy their play in the setting. Staff members ensure all children are secure and happily engaged in meaningful activities. The manager and staff organise the day to include a variety of activities. This means that an individual child would usually be able to find something to interest him or her throughout the session.

Children's welfare is safeguarded through the maintenance of most of the required documentation. However, the record of attendance for staff and children is not in sufficient detail and the certificate of registration is not displayed. The certificate of registration is not displayed to provide reassurance to parents. Therefore, this could comprise children's safety and wellbeing.

Staff members have a clear understanding of their role in supporting the children's learning and play. They work well as a team and are able to make the children feel happy. The setting is meeting the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At last inspection, the provider was asked to improve record keeping systems and develop policies for obtaining consent from parents, for seeking emergency medical advice and dealing with complaints. They have now obtained parental consent to seek medical attention in an emergency and updated the complaints procedure to include regulators details which safeguards children. This means that the systems for caring for children in an emergency have greatly improved.

They were required to provide a system for risk assessment and develop an equal opportunities policy that is easily accessible to parents. These have been addressed to the benefit of the children. There is a comprehensive equal opportunities policy and risk assessments system which is working well to protect children.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection 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 registration systems to consistently reflect arrival and departure of children and staff
- improve the child protection procedures to include what steps will be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member.
- ensure drinks are more readily available to children throughout the day to access when they are thirsty
- display certificate of registration in a prominent position to provide reassurance to parents

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