

Sussex Way Extended School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY347561

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Inspector Liz Corr

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Registered person Sussex Way Extended School

Type of inspection Childcare

Type of care Out of School 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Sussex Way Extended School provision was registered in 2007. It is managed by the management committee of Sussex Way Extended School. It operates from Duncombe Primary School in Upper Holloway in the London borough of Islington. Children have access to a large hall and side classrooms. They also access three enclosed outdoor play areas. The after school club opens each week-day during term-time, from 15:30 to 18:00. The holiday play scheme will offer sessions each week-day, during school holidays from 08:00 to 18:00.

A team of five staff are employed, one member of staff holds a recognised qualification and another member of staff is working towards a suitable qualification.

There are currently 12 children on roll from four to eight years. Children from eight to eleven years also attend. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children's health is seriously compromised both on and off site because there are no staff available who are qualified in first aid and access to first aiders elsewhere in the building is not guaranteed. Children's safety is therefore also not adequately protected on outings. Accidents are appropriately recorded and parents are informed of these in writing. There is no clear sickness procedure to share with parents regarding how children will be cared for if they become unwell at the setting. Staff rely on sharing information verbally with parents because procedures are currently unavailable. Systems to secure parent's permission for emergency medical advice or treatment are not in place.

Children are cared for in a clean environment and are learning adequate hygiene practises. They are encouraged to wash their hands before they take part in cooking activities and before eating their snack. Staff ensure tables and surfaces are appropriately clean before and after food is served

Children are provided with a basic range of snacks at the setting. A healthy eating policy is being introduced in September and children are being consulted about the types of healthy foods they enjoy. They are reminded of this change during their snack session and happily engage in conversations about what they would like to eat next term. They easily access drinking water during the session. Children's dietary needs are securely recoded and adhered to.

Children are involved in a regular program of exciting physical activities including, swimming, football, basket ball and dance. They also enjoy opportunities for fresh air while playing outside with an appropriate range of outdoor equipment. One group of children skilfully use hoola hoops using their bodies to keep them balanced on their waists and feet. The provision for physical activities at the setting contributes to a healthy lifestyle.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

Procedures to promote children's safety are insufficient. Staff do not have a secure understanding of the steps to be taken if a child is lost. This is because the policy is in draft form and has not been implemented. Staff are also unfamiliar with the draft policy for practising emergency evacuations. This seriously compromises the safety of children at the setting, especially those who visit from other sites.

Children's welfare is not fully protected because staff are not secure in their knowledge of the procedures to be followed if an allegation is made against a member of the staff team. However, children benefit from staff's understanding of the procedures to be followed if they have a concern about a child protection matter relating to a child.

Children receive a warm welcome as they arrive. This contributes to their feelings of belonging at the setting. They benefit from the adequately maintained premises which are risk assessed before the children arrive. Appropriate action is taken to minimise identified risks. They enjoy the outdoor area which has a safety surface under the climbing equipment. Their safety is maintained as staff escort them to activities off-site with the appropriate ratio of staff to children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy their time at the setting and are happily engaged in planned and spontaneous activities. They are cared for by friendly and approachable staff who provide a warm welcome to the setting. Children are consulted about changes to their routine, such as the activity programs each half term and the snack menu.

Children are involved in a broad range of planned activities at the setting and off-site at a variety of local venues. They make choices in advance, particularly from the specialist activities. They enjoy learning new languages and are currently learning French. These sessions are lively and planned to be fun for the children. During a healthy sandwich-making activity children are guided by staff and one child is very pleased with their finished product and says loudly, "my sandwich is delicious".

Children are provided with an adequate range of free-play activities including, creative materials, games, books and puppets to promote imaginary play. A program of organised activities are planned in advance and include football, basket ball, ice skating, swimming and drama. These activities usually take place off-site with staff who are specialised in these areas.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the good systems in place to record their individual needs. As a result, they are treated individually and with equal concern. They are learning to value themselves and people who are different as they celebrate cultural festivals and are involved in learning new languages.

Children learn the importance of positive behaviour as they are aware of the boundaries at the setting. For example, they know they will be asked to leave their specialist sessions if they do not behave well. Staff have a calm and friendly approach towards the children and this helps promote good behaviour. There are effective procedures to ensure that children with learning difficulties or disabilities are included into the provision. Good communication systems between staff, parents and other professionals are in place to ensure their needs are met within the setting.

Parents are well informed about the program of specialist activities which are changed each half term. Parents are invited to make suggestions for future programs. Staff are honest and professional in their relationship with parents and give clear explanations if changes can not be made. However, parents are not as well informed about other aspects of the setting. They have not received any information about the policies and procedures. Therefore partnership with parents has not been fully developed.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The organisation of the setting is inefficient. Ofsted have not been informed that a new manager is in post. As a result, Ofsted have been unable to determine the manager's suitability. This is a breach of regulation and has a serious impact for the care of the children and the organisation of the setting. Systems are in place to ensure staff are suitably vetted however, records to

support this are not easily accessible. The requirement to ensure that at least half the staff team are appropriately qualified has not been adhered to.

Systems to promote children's health are seriously compromised. Staff working at the setting do not have current first aid qualifications. Procedures for relying on other members of staff working elsewhere in the building are not guaranteed. Therefore, children's health is not protected both within the setting and on outings.

Procedures to promote children's safety are not secure. Too little has been done to ensure staff are familiar with procedures for the setting which are still in draft form and have not been implemented. As a result, staff are unfamiliar with steps to follow in the event of a child being lost. A child protection policy is in place but does not contain guidance for what to do if an allegation is made against a member of staff. These are breaches of regulation and have a serious impact on the safety of the children at the setting. Staff do not have a secure understanding of the procedures for emergency evacuations. Consequently, children both on-site and those visiting to take part in activities, have not had the opportunity to familiarise themselves with an emergency procedure.

Policies and procedures are currently being drafted and as a result are not implemented into the setting. This impacts on the health, safety and smooth running of the service. Although good information is recorded for each child's individual needs, parents receive basic written information about the service because staff have not organised efficient communication systems. For example, the provider is not aware of the requirement for dealing with complaints about the service. Furthermore the registration certificate is not displayed. These are also breaches of regulation and seriously impact on the safety and welfare of children at the setting.

The setting does not meet 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

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are inadequate – notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- make sure enough staff are trained in first aid to ensure that at least one member of staff with a current first aid certificate is on the premises or on outings at any one time
- provide a statement of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire or emergency
- improve knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation made against a member of staff and include this in the child protection policy
- improve knowledge and understanding of the requirements set out in regulations and set in place a procedure to notify Ofsted of relevant matters such as a change of manager or person in charge
- ensure that staff are familiar with the policies and procedures for the setting including the lost children policy
- make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint
- develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half of all childcare staff will hold a level 2 qualification in childcare

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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