

Club-V @ Cricklewood Lane

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY343169
Inspection date	02 August 2007
Inspector	Deborah Wilkinson
Setting Address	Holmes Place Health Club, 108 Cricklewood Lane, LONDON, NW2 2DS
Telephone number	02084 537200
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Registered person	Virgin Active Limited
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?

Club V Crèche operates from purpose built premises at the Virgin Active Health Club in the Cricklewood area of Barnet. The crèche which was registered in 2007, offers a service to parents using the club facilities. The number of children on roll varies depending on the needs of the parents, however a maximum of 17 children aged from six weeks to under eight years attend at any one time. The crèche is open between 09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday and on Saturdays between 10:00 - 13:00. The manager and one member of staff work full time and there are three part time staff. Children stay in the crèche for a maximum of two hours a day and parents remain on the premises.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean, well organised room designated for their sole use. The premises are well maintained with good levels of hygiene. There are child sized toilet facilities and a separate nappy changing area. The fully stocked first aid box is easily accessible and all the staff have completed first aid training. Systems are in place to record any accidents that occur

and parents sign to confirm they have been informed of the treatment given. Procedures in place to promote children's health and wellbeing include a sick children's policy, obtaining medical treatment in an emergency and the administration of medication.

Children are not provided with refreshments, but fresh drinking water is always available and parents may leave a drink which is labelled with their child's name if they wish.

Although there are no outdoor facilities children have opportunities to exercise their bodies when they climb, ride on the bike, pedal the car or play in the ball pool.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are able to play in safety and comfort because staff take practical precautions to protect them. They benefit from the overall safety awareness of staff who minimise the risk of accidents and are required to read and implement the safety procedures. There is a security system in place to prevent unauthorised entry into the crèche, with staff monitoring those entering or leaving the room. However, sometimes a parent opens the door to admit another person.

Children are cared for by staff who have completed the required checks. Attendance is recorded daily and the numbers are adjusted if necessary to ensure the correct adult to child ratios are maintained. Parents are responsible for signing when their children enter and leave the crèche. However, the system is not adhered to when a child is signed out to attend a session in another room several minutes before actually leaving.

Children generally remain within the crèche rooms where they use a range of equipment that is safe and well maintained. The small tables and chairs allow them to sit comfortably at activities.

The overall welfare of children is safeguarded. Written child protection procedures are in place and staff understand the action they have to take if they identify any issues. Parents are made aware that staff have a responsibility to report any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The children present in the crèche are happy and involved in their play. One arrives and proudly displays a giant watch containing aliens which is much admired by staff. A member of staff sits on the floor with a baby who rests comfortably on a soft mat while reaching for the play gym. An older child sits with an adult and practises catching when they throw a ball to each other. Later they build together using the selection of Duplo. There is a range of resources including drawing materials, a box of books, a ride in car, dolls, a rocker and push along toys to encourage would be walkers. Staff arrange the equipment to be easily accessible using floor mats and tables, however, the lack of low storage within the crèche room limits children's opportunities to select their own play materials.

Additional activities including yoga, cookery, karate and football skills are available, some of which take place in the crèche room. For other sessions, studios within the health club are used and staff take the children to these when required.

The children are confident in their relationships with the staff who chat with them giving support and praising the children for their efforts.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children attend the crèche for various sessions while their parents use the leisure facilities. The registration form for each child is easily accessible for reference, and any specific daily needs are recorded on the register. Staff inform parents about what their child has done in the crèche when they talk to them as the child leaves.

Prospective users are welcomed and staff tell them about how the group operates. A notice board displays key policies and procedures, the registration certificate and a copy of the previous inspection report. Parents also have access to a selection of leaflets about additional activities offered by the club.

Staff provide positive role models for the children when they speak quietly and deal with any upsets by talking to the child and engaging them in an activity. Written procedures regarding behaviour management are in place, and any difficulty is discussed with the parents.

All children are encouraged to join in the activities and have access to the available resources. The programme includes themes based around festivals, and staff talk to the children about feelings and differences in lifestyles.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The crèche is currently in a period of transition, the ownership having changed earlier this year. The manager who has worked in the crèche for a number of years is reviewing and amending the paperwork and has developed good record keeping systems. The crèche is well organised with staff working as a team and sharing responsibilities. However, with regard to activities which are done away from the crèche room, there are no clear guidelines as to whether the responsibility for the children remains with the crèche staff or with the parents

Children are happy and settled. They are cared for by staff who have been thoroughly vetted for their suitability and appropriate records are kept about the needs of each child. Knowledge of the written policies and procedures forms part of the staff induction process and helps them run the crèche efficiently.

The provision 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

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 that the creche door is only opened by authorised people
- keep accurate records of the times that children are present in the creche
- establish clear boundaries with regard the staff's responsibility when a child attends a session in another part of the building

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