

Club-V-Virgin Active

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY343410
Inspection date	25 September 2007
Inspector	Pauline King
Setting Address	Club V, Battle Close, London, SW19 1AL
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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?

Club V-Virgin Active Crèche was registered in 2007. It operates within a two storied self contained unit attached to the fitness club and there is a separate entrance to the crèche. It is situated in South Wimbledon area in the London borough of Merton. The crèche facility is for the use of Virgin Active club members.

The Crèche is open six days a week all year round. Sessions run from 09:30 - 17:30 Monday to Thursday, 09:30 to 15:30 Friday and 10:00 to 13:00 Saturday. A maximum of 37 children may attend the crèche at any one time. There are currently 870 children aged three months to eight years on roll. Children attend on a part time basis, and may attend one two hour session per day or several sessions each week. The crèche currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language. On the ground floor, there is a reception area, two play rooms, kitchen and toilets. On the first floor, there is a large room also used by the children for various sessions. There is a fully enclosed outside play area.

The crèche employs twelve staff including the manager. There are seven members of staff who hold appropriate early years qualifications, plus a receptionist.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health within the setting is supported by staff's good hygiene practices, which minimises the risk of cross infection. For example, they clean the tables before and after snack time. Children are encouraged to do things independently, such as washing their hands and putting outdoor cloths on. However, washing hands is not practised at all times.

Children have access to fresh air and activities to develop their small and large muscle skills. Children enjoy taking part in a good range of physical activities both indoors and outdoors, such as ball pool, soft play area and balancing on climbing frame.

All relevant information regarding diets, allergies and medication is gathered on the registration forms. This ensures children's individual needs are met.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are able to move and play safely and freely, as all areas used by children are safe and hazards have been removed. Children's safety is protected because risk of accidental injury is minimised, due to staff implementing clear safety and security procedures. For example, they ensure the gates are locked when using outside play area, and children are always accompanied in shared areas of the premises. Children are protected from unknown adults entering the building, because there are good systems in place to ensure this cannot happen.

Children play in very clean premises. They use a wide range of safe, good quality resources that are suitable for their age and stage of development. They have good access to all play materials provided on low-level tables and shelves, which encourages independence. For example, picture matching games, construction materials and imaginative play.

Children are protected regarding child protection issues, because staff have attended child protection training and have a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. Staff are very clear about their responsibility to inform the manager if there are concerns, and the manager is fully aware of her role. The local authority procedures are available which means staff can deal promptly with any concerns about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have good relationships with the staff. Children settle quickly on arrival as staff warmly greet them and respond with enthusiasm to the children. They know the children who attend regularly well, and use this knowledge to encourage children who are reluctant or upset to choose an activity, by providing activities which they know will interest the individual child.

Staff promote children's independence by giving them opportunities to freely choose from activities provided throughout the session. Children play well together and often work co-operatively as they play. For example, children moving play people to different rooms in the dolls house.

Activities are provided to develop children's self-expression, their speaking and listening skills and their ability to enjoy the company of other children. For example, they join in enthusiastically during singing sessions. All children enjoy a good range of activities that help them learn. The activities interest them, hold their attention and help them to make good progress. They also benefit from being cared for by a well established staff team.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children in the crèche are treated with respect. Children feel valued as staff are aware of their individual needs and take time to support these. Good selection of toys and play materials available to children reflecting positive images. Children with English as an additional language are supported well. Children develop a positive view of them selves as staff regularly praise their achievements and make them feel important. For example, staff clapping and praising children continuously.

Children behave very well and are polite. Staff help children understand the need for good behaviour as they praise the children when they are polite and explain the effect unacceptable behaviour has.

Effective system ensure children receive consistent care. The parents' notice board provides them with clear information about the setting.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff enhance children's care with good organisation. The manager communicates effectively with the team and they work well together to meet the needs of the children. Staff are led by a manager who is very committed to her role. She regularly evaluates the setting, which enables her to assess areas of strength and areas to develop. The clear recruitment procedure ensures that staff working in the setting are suitable to do so. Staff are kept up to date with current childcare knowledge as they attend courses regularly.

All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well being is in place. It is well organised, accessible and confidential.

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

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 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 good hygiene procedures are practised at all times with children.

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