

Let's Play

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY349989

Inspection date 17 September 2007

Inspector Krystina Chitryn

Setting Address St. Marys School CE Primary School, Cornhill Road, Urmston,
Manchester, Lancashire, M41 5TJ

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Registered person Let's Play (NW) Ltd

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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Let's Play (NW) Ltd. opened in 2007 and is run by a limited company. Children from St Mary's Primary School in Urmston and the local area attend. The club is open each week day from 15.15 to 18.00, term time only. Children attending have access to the school hall, library, art room and associated facilities. There is a fully enclosed play ground for outdoor play. The setting is registered to care for 40 children at any one time. There are 30 children on roll. The club employs four members of staff, two hold an appropriate early years qualification. Support from Sure Start in Trafford is given to the club.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally well protected from infection through satisfactory hygiene routines and the building is cleaned daily. Children are reminded to wash their hands prior to snack time. However, there is no discussion about the reasons why children wash their hands. Staff do not discuss the reasons for healthy eating and this does not extend their knowledge of what is good for them.

Staff provide healthy snacks, which include bread rolls, turkey slices, melon, apples, pears, tomatoes and cucumber cut up. The children are involved with serving the food and choose what they want to eat. The children sit at the tables and staff sit with them and talk to the children. This enables the children to develop their independence and develops social interaction during snack time. Once the snack time is over the drinks are left on the side table, however, the children did not help themselves to drinks, nor were they reminded to by staff. When the children changed rooms for the remainder of the session the children did not have access to drinks. This does not ensure that children are hydrated or make choices about drinking.

Children have satisfactory access to outdoor play activities in the school grounds, they play with balls, stilts and plastic hoops. This supports their physical skills and enables children to run around and participate in robust and active games.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The children benefit from adequate space, both indoors and outside. They have adequate light and natural ventilation. Children use toilet facilities appropriately, which school staff clean at the end of each day. Children benefit from a range of suitable equipment, which is clean and well maintained. Children are kept safe through the provision of equipment that meets the required safety standards. They benefit from a suitable range of toys and equipment which are accessible.

Children are kept generally safe through risk assessments, which are completed daily by staff. Children learn fire safety procedures and fire detection equipment is present. Fire evacuations are practised and recorded. This ensures children are familiar with the evacuation routines and are kept safe.

Staff are aware of the procedure to follow regarding safeguarding children and undergo relevant training as part of their induction. This helps to ensure potential harm is minimised and vulnerable children are protected. Parents are informed of the safeguarding procedures on admission.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy coming to the club. They have an extensive variety of planned and free choice activities, all of which are appropriate to the ages and interests of the children who attend. The hall is divided into different areas of play and the library is used and children can play computer games. This enables children to make their own choices from the range of activities available. Children are given the choice of playing indoors or outdoors.

The wide range of activities includes a dressing up box and some children dress up and act out a play which they develop as they go along. The children cooperate with one another and produce their play. The children were seen to cooperate with adults and their peers, as they discuss their day at school, thus ensuring that children feel valued. The children laugh and enjoy the time spent together in the group. Children are valued and staff listen and talk to them throughout their time at the setting.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are treated with equal concern. Staff have a satisfactory understanding of anti-discriminatory practice in order to support positive attitudes being fostered. Children have limited access to activities and resources to promote their understanding of the wider world, however, they do discuss the wider world and enjoy food from around the world on a Friday. Boys and girls are encouraged to participate in all areas of play and they enjoy dressing up and acting out plays.

Staff are aware of and support children's differences in the group to ensure that their individual needs are catered for. The children are learning about right and wrong. Children learn in an environment where good behaviour is fostered, and as a result they are well mannered. Staff praise, encourage and use appropriate methods to ensure that the children are fully aware of the group's rules.

Staff provide parents with written and verbal information about the policies and procedures on admission. This ensures they are given sufficient information to enable parents to have a full understanding of the groups practice. Families are made to feel welcome and generally information is shared verbally on a daily basis. Parents and children are happy with the group and feel their opinions and ideas are valued and acted upon. Parents made suggestions regarding healthy eating and this was implemented.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The organisation of space is good as the room is divided into different areas of play to accommodate active and quieter periods during the session. Records are maintained to a satisfactory standard; however, at the beginning of the session one member of staff is left with 12 children while two members of staff collect children from other schools. This is a breach of the regulations. The supervisor ensures that this will be remedied immediately.

Records are retained for suitable period and all records are stored securely on site. The documentation currently in place supports and promotes children's well-being. Overall, 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 the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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 complaint 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 minimum staffing ratios are deployed
- ensure children can help themselves independently to drinks
- ensure that children have an appropriate range of activities and resources that promote their understanding of the wider world.

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