

The Bugs Club Central Eastleigh Child Care

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	151090
Inspection date	21 August 2007
Inspector	Coral Hales
Setting Address	Cherbourg Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 5QF
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Registered person	Cherbourg Primary School
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School 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?

The Bugs Club Central Eastleigh Child Care opened in 2001. It operates from rooms within Cherbourg Primary School which is situated in central Eastleigh. A maximum of 10 children may attend the crèche at any one time. It is open on Thursdays from 09:00 to 11:45 during term time only. It operates as part of the family learning programme with parents and carers on site during sessions. Four experienced members of staff work with the children. The out of school and holiday club is registered for a maximum of 32 children at any one time. The out of school club is open every day during term time from 15:15 to 17:45. The holiday club is open during most school holidays and is open 08:30 to 17:45. There are 50 children on roll from four years to 12 years. The out of school club is a member of the 4Children Organisation.

The club currently supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and also has systems in place to support those who speak English as an additional language.

The club employs seven members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children are cared for in clean and well-maintained premises. Good standards of hygiene are maintained within the provision. Good procedures are in place to help children become aware of personal hygiene issues and children are independent in self-care skills. Children's health and welfare is safeguarded regarding accidents, illness and medication due to effective policies and procedures in place and records are well maintained. Most staff are qualified first aiders who can therefore care appropriately for a child should they have an accident, however, consent for emergency treatment/advice is not fully maintained.

Healthy eating is well promoted at the holiday club and children enjoy the nutritious snacks of fresh fruit. Provision is made for them as they all bring packed lunches and they sit down and eat their lunch in comfort at the tables with staff and other children. The after school children have a healthy tea provided, and the crèche children are provided with a fruit snack mid-morning. Drinks are readily available at all times.

Children have opportunities to participate daily in physical activities and recognise the importance of taking regular exercise as part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy using the school playground and take part in games such as table tennis, skittles and ball skills. Children help to maintain the school vegetable garden and plant and harvest vegetables and this encourages them to enjoy the outdoor life. Children in the crèche enjoy using the outdoor areas for walks and play. They have suitable equipment indoors to support their gross motor development, for example, push and ride toys.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children play in safe and secure premises for example, door entry is monitored at all times by staff and supervision of the children is well managed. Daily risk assessments are carried out and children are able to gain an understanding of their own safety when playing. There are good procedures in place to protect children in emergencies, evacuation drills are practised by staff and children on a regular basis; all are recorded. They have a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe when out because the staff plan very effective activities to promote and highlight the need for good roadside practices.

Children have access to a wide range of age and developmentally appropriate toys and play equipment in all areas. They are able to independently choose resources as they are stored at a low level. This encourages the children to make their own decisions about what they do within a safe environment.

Children are well protected by the child protection procedures that are in place to keep them safe. The provider has a written statement which is shared with parents, however, this does not refer to The Local Safeguarding Children Board guidance. Staff have attended relevant training and understand the signs and symptoms of child abuse and know what action to take if they have concerns about a child in their care. Records are used to note any concerns and these are stored securely for confidentiality.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children benefit from playing in a bright, spacious and well-organised environment where displays of their work and attractive posters enhance the areas used. They are looked after by staff who are qualified, experienced and caring. Children are settled, happy and busy in the holiday club and a good range and balance of activities are planned for all children, including those in the after school club and crèche. Most know the staff well and all are happy to chat with them about their home life and about other clubs or schools that they attend. Children make friends with others really well and join together to follow their own ideas, for example, some prefer to colour pictures relating to the theme of American Indians whilst others use the play station or enjoy the outdoor area.

Children made decisions as they choose which resources to use and which activity to take part in, for example, they use the computers to play games and also to research and print off information for their forthcoming trip. Children have opportunities to take part in the gardening club, in cookery and craft activities. They also benefit from a range of activities outside of the provision as they enjoy regular outings, for example, to the local restaurant, theatre and country parks. This allows them to extend their learning and play in different environments. Staff working in the crèche have limited knowledge of the Birth to three matters framework and do not have the information pack. However, the children take part in fun and interesting activities and play with suitable toys that promote, develop and support their learning.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

All children are welcome and are respected as individuals. They have established good relationships with their peers and with the adults. They have good opportunities to learn about the world around them and good use is made of activities that develop and extend their knowledge of how others live, for example, tasting foods from different countries. Effective use is made of the good selection of resources that support children's understanding of diversity.

Staff are able to support children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities and show a commitment to work with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. The provider does not have a specific policy about learning difficulties and/or disabilities which is consistent with current legislation and guidance. Children behave well and suitable behaviour management systems are in place that help the children learn about how to manage different issues. The written policy also includes information on how bullying is dealt with. Age appropriate methods are used for the younger children, for example, distraction and change of activity. All children relate well to praise and positive reinforcement for good behaviour. They build good self-esteem and confidence and play within well-defined boundaries.

Staff work closely with parents and relationships are relaxed and friendly. Full information is made available to the parents about the after school and holiday club. Limited information is available relating to the crèche. A poster giving parents details of who to contact if they have any concerns is displayed. The required complaints log is in place and any complaint is dealt with in line with current guidelines. This fosters a positive partnership with parents.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The various groups are effectively managed and organised. The provider has good procedures in place to ensure staff working with children are suitable to do so. Most regulatory paperwork is in place for the after school and holiday club and is well-maintained. However, the crèche does not have all required documentation. The registration certificate is displayed. Staff are experienced in caring for children and have undertaken appropriate training. They work together well as a team to promote children's enjoyment of the clubs and crèche.

Children benefit from the well organised day and look forward to activities, for example, the visit to the country park. They are able to move around freely and easily in the well-organised environment. Ratios are good and this allows children to receive some individual care when necessary. They are happily and purposefully engaged in activities throughout the day. Overall, the setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Following the last inspection the provider agreed to update and improve medication records to ensure all were appropriately signed by parents. This recommendation has been met and ensures the safety and well-being of the children and keeps parents informed.

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 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):

- develop a written statement about learning difficulties and/or disabilities which is consistent with current legislation and guidance (relevant to all clubs). Make available to parents
- ensure parental consent is maintained for emergency treatment/advice for all children
- develop crèche staff's knowledge and understanding of activities to stimulate and promote learning for the youngest children, for example, by using the Birth to three framework.

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