



Devizes Leisure Centre Creche, Playscheme And Fun Clubs

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	146026
Inspection date	13 October 2005
Inspector	Paul Martin Kitchen
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Registered person	Devizes Leisure Centre Playscheme And Fun Club
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 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?

Devizes Leisure Centre Play Scheme and Fun Club opened in 1993. It operates from Devizes Leisure Centre and from a mobile unit which is located in the grounds of the leisure centre. It is situated on a large school and leisure campus in the centre of Devizes, Wiltshire. A maximum of 32 children may attend the play scheme, and 8 in the crèche. The play scheme is open each weekday in the school holidays from 08.30 to 17.30 and the crèche is open from 09.00 to 12.30 all the year round. Children in the play scheme share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 60 children aged from birth to 5 years on roll. Children come from a wide catchment area. The play scheme and crèche supports children with special educational needs, and also supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The play scheme employs five full-time staff, and the crèche five part time staff. None of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children benefit from facilities that are bright, clean, and hygienic. Premises are well heated and ventilated. The premises are cleaned every day by external cleaning staff and checked by crèche staff when they open the premises in the morning. Staff change children's nappies effectively with the aid of protecting gloves, and use the nappy changing mat which is hygienically cleansed. There are well-organised routines and diligent staff ensure children learn the importance of good personal hygiene, for example when using the toilet. Children are well-protected from infection as the crèche staff inform parents in writing that their children will be excluded if they are sick and infectious. Managers of the leisure centre hold first aid certificates which are regularly updated. If a child is injured, crèche staff call the manager on the telephone. They then respond bringing the first aid kit with them. This procedure could cause delay in the child receiving attention. There are no policies or procedures for the administering of medicines, or a procedure for contacting parents if children are sick whilst attending the crèche. In addition there is no written parental permission to seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.

Children benefit from regular drinks which parents provide. Staff ensure those drinks are provided at regular intervals, according to children's needs. For example babies, who are given regular feeds according to parents clear instructions. Older children are encouraged to drink by feeding themselves. All drink and feed containers are regularly monitored for hygiene.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in suitable premises that are warm and welcoming and decorated in vibrant colours. All areas are well maintained. The toilet is suitable and well designed for the use of young children. The premises are not designed for outside use by children. Children experience a good range of toys and equipment which are well maintained and hygienically cleansed. For example there are slides, jigsaws, construction toys, home corner, garage and cars, toy prams and dolls. and exercise equipment. Children enjoy and self select the toys they would like to play with which are all accessible at their level.

Children benefit from a broad range of safety measures which are designed to

prevent accidents. An example of this is there are guards on the electric wall fires, safety gates near the exit, high locks on the doors to prevent children entering the rooms, and socket covers on electric sockets. In the toilet the internal lock has been effectively removed to prevent children locking themselves in, in the event of an emergency. Children develop an awareness of fire safety by regular practice of the fire escape procedures. All premises are secure and monitored by staff to prevent unauthorised entry of persons.

All children are well protected from possible abuse and neglect. A good understanding by staff of their personal duty with regard to the procedure to follow if they have any concerns, ensures children remain safe in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children's individual needs and welfare are met by caring enthusiastic staff. Children are handed over to the crèche staff by parents who attend the leisure centre classes. Information is exchanged and facts checked comprehensively by staff against the written details, before the parent leaves. Children arrive happily in the crèche and have good levels of confidence and self esteem as they participate enthusiastically in the activities on offer. They make their own choices by moving from one set up activity to another within their own pace and interest. Children sing, dance, shout, and run around within the safe environment. They safely stretch their limbs, by balancing, climbing, or swinging from the low level climbing apparatus. Babies are held by staff, cuddled or played with when lying in their car seat. Their ongoing needs are met for example, physically, from changing a nappy or feeding, and emotionally from providing eye contact and human sounds. Nursery music is available in the background to add to the calm environment the children experience.

Birth to three matters material is available in the crèche but staff are not referring to it and have not received training in its use.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued as individuals and their needs met. They experience a high adult-child ratio which ensures they are well supported from committed staff. Children do not develop a good understanding of the wider world and their community as there are few resources and images reflecting this. There is an appropriate statement of special needs available to parents and children, informing them for example that children with disabilities are welcome. Staff have a positive attitude and are well-prepared to discuss children's individual needs with parents

Children behave well in the crèche, where they benefit from the acceptable roll models provided by staff. Children understand right from wrong from staff who are positive, using praise and encouragement at every opportunity. There is a satisfactory partnership with parents where detailed information is exchanged with

parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. In addition effective feedback is given to parents. For example at the end of the session feedback includes what children have been doing, what they have consumed, and if they have slept. Parents give good positive feedback on the quality of care provided by the crèche staff. However, there are weaknesses in the sharing of information with parents about the complaints procedures.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The outcomes for children are inadequate as a result of managers limited knowledge and understanding of the National Standards and regulation. The organisation of care does not meet children's needs and regulatory requirements. For example the manager of the crèche is not qualified to level 3, nor are the remainder of the staff qualified at level 2, to the 50% level. A previous action requesting the setting to provide and implement a plan and for the qualification of staff, has not been achieved. Failure to respond to actions has not ensured that staff members are trained to the required qualification level. This potentially adversely affects children's safety and welfare.

There is an no effective system in place to ensure staff are suitable and continue to be suitable. For example one member of staff in the crèche is not listed on the system as having a Criminal Records Bureau disclosure, which is an essential part of checking a persons suitability. This potentially puts children at risk from persons who are not cleared. There are weaknesses in the procedures for recording complaints from parents, and in informing them of the outcome within the required time limit. Managers do not ensure that all complaints are recorded, nor are parents provided with sufficient information about the complaints procedure. There is no overall operational plan detailing the policies and procedures for the setting. There are some policies for example, including a policy excluding children who are sick and infectious, but no policy and procedure for the administration of medication for children during their stay. There are no procedures for lost or uncollected children and no parental consents for emergency medical advice or treatment.

There are some records for the effective administration of the setting including the attendance register, child record forms, and accident reports. In addition records are kept for the required period, in a confidential system. Some appropriate records are shared with parents as required.

The setting does not meet the needs of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

The setting has made some improvements since the last inspection resulting in an improved service for children. At the last inspection the management were asked to forward to Ofsted a plan to demonstrate how and when minimum staff qualifications levels were achieved. A plan has not been received by Ofsted, staff are still not qualified to the correct levels, and it is therefore the subject of a further action in this

inspection. They were asked to ensure that the first aid box had up-to-date items, nappy changing facilities were available, and that electric sockets and heater covers were fitted. All these have now been captioned. They were asked to ensure there is a named deputy in the crèche, and provide child sized furniture for young children. The crèche has a designated number of staff who are placed on duty, dependant on the numbers and ages of children booked in by parents. They are managed by an operations manager, who can provide a deputy role at any time. There is now sufficient child sized furniture available for children to enjoy. The management were asked to obtain written permission from parents for emergency medical advice or treatment, and keep Ofsted informed of relevant changes. This consent is still not available and subject to a further action in this report. Ofsted have not been informed of relevant changes.

Management were asked to ensure parents are fully informed of policies and procedures. Although some policies and procedures are available, they are not comprehensive and available to parents.

Complaints since the last inspection

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.

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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:

- ensure that there are effective procedures in place for checking that staff are suitable to work with children
- develop and implement an action plan; detailing how at least half of all childcare staff will hold a level 2 qualification in childcare, and supervisors will achieve a level 3 qualification
- develop recording and procedures as outlined in the National Standards with

particular regard to the medication documentation and lost child policy

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 *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk