



Earlesmead Holiday Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	148096
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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?

Earlsmead holiday play scheme opened in 1992 and operates from the main hall, two playgrounds and the school field. It is situated within Earlsmead First and Middle School in South Harrow. A maximum of twenty four children under 8 years may attend the setting at any one time. The scheme opens on a daily basis for four weeks during the summer holidays. Times of operation are from 08:30 to 17:30. All children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor area.

There are currently eleven children from five years to under eight years on roll. Children attend from the local area and admission to the club is based on a first come

first served basis.

The setting currently supports a number of children with special educational needs.

The scheme employs seven staff. None of the staff, including the person in charge hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff are working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The setting has in place suitable written cleaning and hygiene procedures. However these are not implemented as care has not been taken to ensure the premises are kept clean to ensure children are cared for in an environment that reduces risk of infection. The tables and floors were not clean, old food crumbs and sticky drink marks were present in the areas used by the children.

Children enjoy a selection of activities, which contribute to their good health. Each day there are outdoor activities to help them develop control of their bodies. For example football, rounders or badminton. These outdoor games improve children's physical development. Children understand the importance of taking regular drinks as a way to maintain their health.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in an adequately organised environment. The arrangement of the resources and equipment means that children can move around safely and freely.

Children's risk of accidental injury is minimized within the setting which has satisfactory safety and security precautions. Staff monitor entrances at the beginning and end of sessions to ensure children are dropped off and collected safely.

Children are well protected from possible abuse or neglect. Staff are aware of the settings child protection policy and have a clear understanding of the reporting procedures if abuse is suspected. The scheme has in place clear and concise written records which staff must familiarise themselves with to ensure the safety of the children in their care.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are generally engaged throughout their time within the setting, they play happily with each other and younger children share and take turns. Children have

access to a limited selection of resources such as board games and creative activities. The children are not sufficiently challenged or extended. They would benefit from resources that are more stimulating, challenging and age appropriate in order to extend their learning and enjoyment. Staff need to give more thought to the activities they are providing to ensure they are suitable to the varying ages and interests of the children in attendance.

The children are comfortable, settled and happy within the setting. They enter confidently and with little fuss when saying bye to parents. One child was observed to shout out bye to his mum and run over to his friends who had called out his name when they saw him. The children relate well to each other and socialise well with one another. Children are spoken to in a warm, positive and caring manner.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. However, their needs are not always met as they have limited access to resources that offer sufficient challenges and which are appropriate to their ages and levels of interests. Children have too few opportunities to increase their awareness of diversity and understanding of others within their communities. The setting has an insufficient selection of resources that reflect positive images.

Children are generally well behaved and polite in response to the expectations of staff. They are encouraged to take turns, share and to have regard for others.

Appropriate procedures are in place to share information with parents. This contributes significantly to children's well-being. Information is communicated verbally, through the use of notice boards and an informative policies and procedures booklet is shared with new parents.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The premises are adequately organised. Indoor and outdoor space is set out to enable play opportunities for children. All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health, safety and well being is in place.

None of the staff including the person in charge hold a recognised childcare qualification. This at times impacts on the children's ability to access appropriate resources. Staff are sufficiently deployed which means that children are adequately supported in activities and appropriate policies and procedures ensure children's safety. Overall the setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

The setting was asked to increase the range of toys and resources to meet the needs of all the children, and to provide resources that reflect positive images. These recommendations have still not been achieved by the setting. This results in children not being sufficiently challenged or engaged in activities, that are appropriate for their ages and interests and which promote their awareness of the wider community.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

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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):

- Provide children with a selection of resources that are age appropriate, fun, interesting, offer sufficient challenge and promote positive images of the wider community.
- Ensure the premises are kept clean and well maintained at all times.
- Ensure Ofsted is notified of significant changes within the required timeframes.
- Ensure the person in charge is suitably qualified and at least half the staff caring for children have an appropriate childcare qualification.

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