

# Green Dragon Holiday Playscheme & After School Care

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	116216
<b>Inspection date</b>	31 January 2008
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<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day 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](http://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?

Green Dragon After School Club is run by the committee of Green Dragon care scheme. It was registered in 1993 and operates from a school hall within school grounds in Brentford in the London Borough of Hounslow. It serves the children who attend the Green Dragon school.

A maximum of 40 children may attend the provision at any one time. There are currently 32 children on roll.

The after school club is open from 15:15 to 17:45 each weekday during term time. There are three members of staff work with the children, of whom two hold a suitable childcare qualification and one is working toward a qualification.

A breakfast club and holiday play scheme also operate from the same premises. The breakfast club is open from 08:00 to 09:00 each weekday, term time only. The holiday play scheme operates during school holidays and is open from 08:00 to 17:45.

Children attending the breakfast club also attend the school from which the provision operates. The holiday play scheme serves children and families from the local community. The staff group

offer continuity of care to children, by working within the Holiday Play Scheme and The Breakfast and After School Clubs.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are able to play in a clean environment where they are able to recognise the importance of good hygiene. For example, by washing their hands before snack time. They are protected from the risk of cross infection and unnecessary illness as most of the required policies and procedures are in place. However, permission has not been obtained from parents for the seeking of emergency medical advice or treatment, which reduces protection.

Children are learning about healthy eating as this is being well promoted by the setting. The walls display informative pictures and literature, which promote healthy foods. Children are encouraged to try new foods, such as, hummus. They are rewarded with stickers for participating. Children are able to enjoy a variety of healthy snacks and drinking water throughout the session. They sit together at the table and enjoy sociable times. However, they are not always given opportunities to develop their independence, by pouring their own drinks and self serving. Children's dietary requirements are being met as staff gather and respect information about their individual needs.

Children are able to develop physically as they participate in daily activities both indoors and outdoors. They benefit from fresh air as they run, hop and join in races in the outdoor area. They are able to access a wide range of sports equipment. For example, cricket, football, croquet, hoops, tennis and badminton.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are able to play in a secure, child focused environment where staff take steps to identify and minimise possible hazards. For example, risk assessments are carried out, including daily visual checks. Children are being protected in the event of a fire as exits are clearly marked and kept clear from clutter. There are evacuation procedures and records in place. Visitors are required to report to and sign in at the main school reception and a visitors' book is in place, when entering the after school club. Children are being escorted safely through the school to the after school club. The staff encourage them to walk calmly through the school.

Children have access to a range of age appropriate equipment. Suitable resources are available both indoors and outside, which helps ensure children have opportunities to participate in a wide range of activities.

The staff have knowledge of child protection issues and demonstrate an awareness of their responsibilities in this area. There is a policy in place to help safeguard children, however, this does not contain all the required contact details, which reduces the protection for children.

## **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

Children have fun after school as they engage in a range of activities. They are confident speakers as they share their news with staff and visitors and talk about trips they have made. Children are able to relax as they settle to play board games, supported by staff members. They sit comfortably on rugs as they choose and share books.

They have fun developing their imagination as they feed the dolls with bottles and put them to bed. They take 'Buzz light-year' on flying adventures as they circle the toys in the air. Children participate at circle times as they chat and shout out the answers to a quiz. They play well in groups as they participate in projects, such as, building with Lego. Children have lots of good opportunities to be creative as they participate in art and craft activities, including, making melted wax patterns. In addition, they are able to join in regular sewing and cooking sessions. The planned activities ensure children have a variety of opportunities on each day they attend and include time for children to make their own free choices of activities.

Children learn about technology as they have fun selecting items for the pets on the computer. They observe nature and watch things grow as they participate in planting activities. They are able to recap on past experiences and take pride in their achievements as they look at photos and examples of their work on the walls. Children have regular opportunities to join in physical activities in the well equipped outdoor area and as they move around freely indoors.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

Children are happy in the welcoming environment. The staff are friendly and warm in their approach, which helps children feel settled and at home in the setting. Children are able to learn about the wider world as they have access to a range of suitable resources, which positively reflect diversity. All children are being valued and recognised as individuals as the team have a positive attitude towards inclusion.

Children are learning to be responsible as they help to tidy away the toys. They are being encouraged by supportive photos on the walls of sweeping and putting toys in a box. They play well together sharing and taking turns. They behave well as the staff praise and encourage them, which helps to build their confidence and self esteem. Children are aware of the ground rules within the setting, the staff reinforce these through regular discussions and asking the children why they have certain rules in place.

Children benefit from the good communication between parents, carers and staff. The staff greet parents warmly and communicate verbally about their child. Parents are kept informed via a newsletter and a notice board. They have access to the policies and procedures. Parents comment favourably on the setting. For example, children are being well cared for by nice staff. The staff value the views of parents and periodically provide questionnaires to seek their views.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are settled and at ease in the setting. They are able to move around freely accessing a range of interesting and age appropriate activities. Children are being well supervised as the staff are effectively deployed and actively engaged with children as they play. The staff team

work well together and look at enhancing their practice through discussions and attending training, when possible.

Most of the required documentation is in place. However, the policy relating to child protection does not contain all the required details and the seeking of emergency medical advice or treatment has not been obtained. The paperwork is made available for inspection and stored safely to maintain confidentiality. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection the setting was asked to ensure there was a policy and procedure in place about the exclusion of children who are ill or have any infectious illness. They were asked to devise and make available a written statement on special needs, which was understood by staff and to provide a policy for uncollected children. In addition, they were required to improve safety by ensuring storage cupboards were made safe and to repair the roof. They were asked to ensure that half of the staff hold a recognised childcare qualification and that supervisors were appropriately qualified.

The setting has improved their paperwork by providing a sick child policy, a special needs policy and a policy regarding uncollected children. These documents are known to staff. This helps to protect children. The setting has suitable storage cupboards and they are working with the school to rectify an on going problem with the roof, which they state poses no danger to children. The manager and deputy manager hold appropriate qualifications and half the staff working in the after school club and holiday play scheme provisions hold suitable early years qualifications. There are plans in place for meeting these requirements for the breakfast club. These steps help to ensure children are safeguarded in the setting.

### **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 can be seen 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 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):

- increase opportunities for children to help themselves at meal times

- obtain written consent from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment in the future
- update the policy for safeguarding children to ensure it contains all the necessary detail

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)