

The Man In The Moon

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY236138
Inspection date	07 January 2008
Inspector	Christine Clint
Setting Address	Camelsdale School, School Road, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 3RN
Telephone number	01428 608866
E-mail	info@themaninthemoon.co.uk
Registered person	Paul Branch
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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Man In The Moon is a drama day camp and opened in 2002 at the Camelsdale School site in Haslemere. It operates from various designated areas in Camelsdale School, which is about two miles from Haslemere town centre. The facility serves the local area of Haslemere and surrounding towns and villages.

The Man in the Moon is registered to provide care for 20 children between the ages of five years and under eight years, although it is the policy of the setting to accept children up to 14 years. There are currently 175 children on the roll. Children attend a variety of sessions.

The group opens five days a week, during specific weeks of the school holidays. Sessions are from 08:30 to 17.30.

There are six members of staff who work with the children. Three staff have completed relevant play work qualifications and two are currently on training programmes. Four staff have current certificates in first aid training. The drama day camp was not operating at the time of the inspection, therefore no children were present.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are fully encouraged to participate in physical activities at every session; this adds to their enjoyment, their emotional wellbeing and their physical development. They start every day with 'camp dances', they take part in organised indoor games and use the permanent outdoor apparatus in the school play ground. Children climb and play in the low trees; they often use these for 'hide and seek' games. Children also learn to move their bodies during the drama sessions, to enhance and develop their practise.

Children's health is well maintained because the premises are cleaned and organised by the staff every day to effectively prevent the risk of cross contamination. Staff have rotas to share responsibilities for preparing snacks, for spraying and wiping areas used for food preparation and before eating. The rotas include checking the toilets every two hours and staff frequently remind children about hand washing; there are also signs displayed in the toilets to prompt regular hand washing. Children are encouraged to help staff with regular clearing up chores and this helps them to learn about their individual and joint responsibilities.

Children are encouraged to eat fruit and drink sugar free fruit squash at every break time. They can help themselves to water at any time during activities because there is a water tank available. Children bring their own packed lunches and staff sit with them to socialise and supervise during the lunch break. There are clear routines in place to identify any special dietary needs or allergies, and these routines ensure that staff are accurately alerted to support children.

Children's accidents are very thoroughly recorded and comprehensive systems are included to ensure that parents are informed. All accident records are signed at collection time. The detailed records clearly show how accidents have occurred and any hazards that may have caused the injury are reviewed. A colour coding system is used throughout all documentation and clear, efficient routines enable staff to identify and manage children's individual needs. There are also fully documented details for administering medication and parents complete all permission prior to children attending. A full range of policies and procedures are in place to promote and support children's health and this includes a sickness policy to enable parents to understand the incubation and exclusion times for all common illnesses. The holiday play camp has a quiet area that children can use if they are unwell and have to wait before going home.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

There are well organised routines in place to ensure that children attending the drama day camp remain safe. Children use the school facilities already in place and staff have enhanced the safety routines. For example, they have added a door bell and notices to show the telephone contact number if all staff and children are in the playground. The premises are secure and any visitors are recorded and provided with badges. Parents have information displayed and an outside white board is used to show any daily notices. Children use the large hall and the entrance lobby, they also use a studio and there are separate cloakrooms available, including suitable toilets for smaller children.

Children are fully protected because staff competently complete a daily risk assessment and records show how staff have previously recorded items that need further attention. The outside

area is also checked daily and full procedures are in place for lost or uncollected children. Regular fire drills are practised. The drama day camp has a special whistle for instant attention and all children are informed about this when they first attend. They learn about following routines to maintain their own safety and often take part in planned scenarios where one child hides to encourage staff to count and search during a fire drill.

Children are provided with suitable play equipment and many activities are planned in advance. Specific areas are used within the school for particular activities. Children can make choices and help themselves to craft materials because these are stored suitably for easy access; children choose to use tables or the floor for craft work. Documentation is available to show how activities are planned, what equipment is provided or needing to be replenished. Staff know it is their responsibility to discard any broken play equipment.

Children's welfare is fully considered and staff regularly update their knowledge of child protection. The provider has experience and is very aware of the regulatory procedures, these are included in the staff induction process. The drama day camp child protection policy includes a ban on any one to one ratio, of staff to children, but it does not include how any allegations against staff would be managed. There are clear records in place to show any injuries that children have on arrival and parents are informed of the drama day camp's responsibility to refer any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have choice and a variety of activities during the day. They can contribute to the regular opportunities for developing their own drama work. They are encouraged to think and use their imagination, to extend their ideas on specific themes and work together to plan and create drama. Talent shows have often been included and specific themed days; for example, children practise telling jokes. Music is very frequently included and used as a stimulus for drama; children practise dancing regularly and enjoy physical movement. They sometimes watch videos and especially if this is linked with performing.

There are also daily opportunities for crafts, construction, reading stories and regular outdoor play. Plans for activities show that staff organise in advance and know what they want to achieve with children. They use evaluation sheets to record how successful activities have been and changes that may be required. Children have completed many positive feedback forms for the provider to give ideas of what they have enjoyed most or what they would like the day camp to provide.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are frequently encouraged to explore different roles in their drama practise. Those who are willing to act in non-stereotypical roles often help other children to learn and increase their understanding. They also learn to understand the views of others through group discussion and explanation from staff. There is a strong ethos of inclusion and developing open attitudes towards each other; this helps children to broaden their understanding. Children are clearly valued and respected as individuals and their needs are fully considered.

Children are encouraged to behave well when they attend, because there are several schemes in place to increase their involvement and provide tools for empowering children. Children

regularly volunteer to become monitors, they are very willing to carry out specific duties and to take responsibility. All children attending, participate in making their own weekly rules for the drama day camp, they suggest these and agree together with staff. There are clear guidelines for speaking in turn and shouting is not acceptable from staff or children. Children's efforts are celebrated and those who try really hard are awarded stars and have a ceremony for achievement. The drama camp have used the outdoor school 'Buddy bench' and children volunteer to be responsible for anyone sitting on the buddy bench and needing a buddy. This has worked well and encouraged children to think about how others are feeling. There are clear, sensible guidelines in place to manage bullying and any unacceptable physical contact between children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The holiday drama camp is well organised and planned. There are thorough procedures in place for ensuring that staff are suitable to work with children and good levels of qualified staff are maintained. There is a clear encouragement for staff to continue with training in play work and child care. The setting has good continuity of staff. The drama camp aims are soundly stated and a full range of policies and procedures are available. The provider is highly aware of the need to display the registration certificate during the hours of operation and there are comprehensive systems in place to record the attendance of all children and staff.

The provider is experienced and committed to providing drama and activities to meet the needs of school age children. He has introduced effective systems to ensure that staff can use their individual initiative and work together to plan and provide a stimulating atmosphere. There are also very effective evaluation processes to ensure that staff, children and parents can record their views and influence change. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom they provide.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider was asked to conduct a risk assessment on the premises, identifying actions to be taken to minimize identified risks for each room and for the outdoor play area. There is a full risk assessment process in place for the drama day camp, which covers indoor and outdoor areas. A daily assessment sheet has also been developed and copies are available to show how staff have regularly completed this and noted any areas requiring additional actions; these are then followed and recorded. The activity evaluations also highlight any risks during planned activities and the accident records clearly show where hazards are identified. As a result, children's safety is enhanced.

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):

- include information in the child protection policy to show how procedures will be followed if there are any allegations against staff.

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