

Waterfront Leisure Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY242975
Inspection date	25 October 2007
Inspector	Linda Margaret Nicholls
Setting Address	High Street, Woolwich, London, SE18 6DL
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Registered person	Greenwich Leisure Ltd
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Waterfront Leisure centre crèche and Kool Crew holiday play scheme have been registered since 2002. The leisure centre is managed by Greenwich Leisure Limited and the schemes have an onsite and offsite manger. The Waterfront Leisure centre crèche was not inspected.

The Kool Crew holiday play scheme provides an all day service for children between the ages of five to 11 and is available Monday-Friday during school holidays from 08:00 to 18:00. Registration is for a maximum of 56 children under eight years at any one time. The total number of children attending the holiday play scheme including children aged eight to 11 is 100. There are approximately 500 children on roll, 250 of whom are under eight years. The play scheme uses three sports halls, exercise studios and the swimming pool. Children under eight attending the play scheme are not allowed to go swimming. The site manager has a sports science degree, staff are experienced and have appropriate qualifications in sports coaching, leisure, teaching or youth work.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children develop a good knowledge of personal health issues from every day routines. They know to wash their hands before eating food. Children are protected from infectious ailments because the provider has a written sick child policy which is discussed with parents prior to admission. Children's health is promoted because the provider keeps effective accident records although these are recorded several to a page. Emergency contact numbers are held and written consents are signed. Children benefit from appropriate procedures when they are ill because the provider ensures a member of staff with a current first aid qualification is on duty and a first aid box is available.

Children eat foods provided by their parents or purchase light meals from the café. They chat to each other or members of staff and have access to fresh water daily. Children enjoy a wide range of physical activities supported by staff experienced in sports or leisure activities. They play team games, football, parachute games and copy dance routines. They know exercise makes them fit and healthy and sit or lay down when they need to relax.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children and adults are welcomed into well used activity rooms. There is good natural light and air conditions in the main activity rooms although the café section can become warm in the summer. The club has sole use of the rooms and staff have radio communication equipment. There is sufficient space for children to extend their play. Children access games, toys, equipment and furniture prepared by staff. Outside play is not provided.

Children play in a secure environment because the provider ensures visitors details are recorded. Hazards are recorded and risk assessed. Regular head counts are taken as children move from area to area. Staff induction includes an awareness of health and safety requirements. Staff directly supervise children at all times. There are clearly defined procedures for emergency evacuation of the building although children do not practise fire drills.

Children's welfare is assured because there is a written statement within the clubs Fact Sheet and in a written policy informing parents of the provider's responsibilities and procedures. Staff induction includes the recording and reporting of concerns of possible abuse or neglect. This includes the procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff. There is a named member of staff with responsibility for liaison with the local agencies and Ofsted.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children enjoy a range of stimulating, challenging games and planned activities with sufficient resources in varied rooms throughout the leisure centre. Experienced staff encourage the development of children's individual skills and enthusiasm for learning. They praise children for the drawings they have made, their enthusiasm during ball games or for taking part in whole group games, such as Wink Wink Murder. However children's work is not displayed so they are not aware that their work is valued.

Children are well mannered and learning to be self regulatory because staff give simple, consistent explanations for the behaviour they want. Children share pens and paper to colour and draw or line up quickly to move between areas. Children grow socially confident as they meet others from different schools. Parents and children are informed of general play plans and the club's aims which ensure children have an enjoyable time.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children develop a positive attitude to others because staff sensitively provide strong role models. They treat all children with equal concern and according to their individual needs. Children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities would be supported.

Children are good natured and respectful of each other. They know the club rules which include looking after equipment and resources, sharing, being kind to one another and having fun. They take part in group games and activities. Children laugh and enjoy each others company and play within effective boundaries.

The partnership with parents is satisfactory. The provider does not hold a complaints record individual and separate from the leisure centre. Children benefit from continuity of care provided with written agreements and supported by all required information and written consents. Parents are happy with the provision. They think the club is good for their children and 'they enjoy coming here'. Parents describe staff as 'friendly and easy to talk to.' Information is exchanged daily between parents and staff. The provider ensures all policies and procedures are available for their information.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children play in a safe and welcoming environment although they are not familiar with emergency escape procedures. Children are engaged in a wide variety of activities and supported by caring staff who work well as a team. The provider ensures all staff are suitable to work with children. Policies and procedures are available for parents information. All required records are maintained, however, some do not promote complete confidentiality which means children's privacy is not fully protected. The holiday play scheme does not maintain a complaints record individual and separate from the leisure centre. The register clearly notes when children are present and the registration certificate is displayed. The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to three recommendations to ensure children's medical records are maintained, to provide staff with information for reporting child protection concerns and to develop a complaints procedure with Ofsted's contact details for parents. Children are well protected with a current medication policy and procedure for the administration

of medication. Parents are informed of the complaints procedure and Ofsted's contact details. Staff have direct contact information for reporting child protection concerns.

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 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):

- consider methods to maintain confidentiality with personal records throughout the day
- consider methods to introduce children to the practice of fire or emergency exit procedures
- consider the development of a complaints record for the Kool Crew Holiday Playscheme that is individual and separate from the complaints record for the leisure centre.

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