

St Mary's Hare Park School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY334674
Inspection date	08 January 2008
Inspector	Caroline Preston
Setting Address	St. Mary's Hare Park School, South Drive, ROMFORD, RM2 6HH
Telephone number	01708 766211 ext 244
E-mail	
Registered person	The Trustees of Romford YMCA
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of 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 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?

YMCA out of school club opened in 2006 and operates from five rooms within St Mary's Park school which is a Catholic independent school. It is situated in Romford in the London borough of Havering. A maximum of 30 children may attend the after school club at any one time. The after school club is open each weekday from 15:00 to 18:00 during term time only. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. Only children attending St Mary's park school may attend the after school club. There are currently 15 children aged from four to eight years on roll. The after school club employs three members of staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are greeted warmly as they arrive at the after school club, they are brought from their classrooms by their school teachers. After school club staff then take a head count all children and ensure they record time of arrival, they then go to the after school club's allocated play rooms. Children learn about hygiene as they are reminded to wash their hands after using the

toilet and before snacks are offered. Staff wear appropriate disposable gloves as they prepare snacks, they also wipe down the tables. Therefore, they reduce the risk of germs, and children help, so they learn the importance of hygiene. Most staff are first aid trained and their certificates are displayed on the wall, they also keep beside them, easily accessible, a first aid box, so are able to manage any accidents should they occur. All accident records are completed correctly and permission has been sought from parents for emergency medical treatment.

Children are offered healthy snacks after school including sandwiches with fillings, such as tuna, cheese, jam and ham. They are all offered fruit and on some days cheese and crackers or hot-dogs with water. Children are independent as they help to put out the cups and plates, they pour the drinks and all clear away their dishes. Children are asked if they want to play outside by staff, most children choose to and take out the large bag containing bats, balls and skipping ropes. Therefore they are able to exercise in the fresh air and take part in group games using appropriate resources.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

There is no procedure in place to be followed if an allegation of abuse was made against a member of staff or volunteer, which is a mandatory requirement in regulations. Therefore the provider has failed to comply with regulation. Staff show a sound awareness of child protection issues, they know the different types of abuse and possible signs and symptoms and to inform senior staff. This means children would be protected if abuse was suspected.

Fire drills are currently practised regularly therefore children learn about fire safety. Staff supervise children at all times and wear ID badges, all staff have had police checks, so are safe to care for children. Unwanted visitors cannot enter the school without ringing the bell. All fire safety equipment has been checked, the current public liability insurance certificate is displayed and staff carry out risk assessments. These safety measures support the care and well-being of all the children. They are cared for in a well maintained environment which is child friendly, safe and secure. Children make good use of the school hall and playground to take part in large physical games. Play resources are stored securely and meet the age and stage of development of the children attending and are safe and clean. Play resources include puzzles, board games, dolls, cars, role play furniture, books and creative play resources. Children are able to choose what they want to play with from the cupboard, so make independent choices for themselves and can access toys easily and safely.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are settled when they arrive at the after school club, they are familiar with their surroundings as they all attend the school during the day where the club is held. They all talk eagerly as they arrive, asking staff about the activities for the day. Children take part in ball games outside, they also take part in team games inside the hall, they dance to music, and play with board games, cars and swing ball. They are confident to ask for what they want to play with and take it from the store cupboard. Children have built sound friendships with each other and older children take time to support younger ones, as they play games. Staff interact with children well, they listen to them and have discussions with them about whatever the children want to talk about. This shows staff make time to engage with children during the session. Children show they are happy as they play together laughing and chatting with each other.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are given satisfactory opportunities to learn about diversity, as they have access to play resources promoting different cultures and people with disabilities. There are sound systems in place to support children with learning difficulties. Children behave well; they interact well with each other. Staff use systems that support children's understanding of behaviour, for example, children are given three warnings through explanations; then parents are informed of any negative behaviour. Staff have built sound relationships with parents, and at the end of each session staff exchange relevant information with parents about their child. Parents are given parent information packs, explaining their activities and policies. Therefore, children benefit because communication between parents and staff is positive.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Ofsted have not been informed of the change of the person who has delegated, clearly identifiable and direct responsibility for the provision of day care, therefore failed to comply with regulation. Children are comfortable and confident in the setting, which is sufficiently organised to meet their needs. Children take part in outdoor and indoor play; they have formed sound friendships with each other and staff. Staff are suitably checked so safe to care for children, all mandatory records are in place to promote the welfare of the children. Staff are generally deployed well to ensure adequate care of children, and are aware of their roles and responsibilities. The setting does not meet the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection, two actions were raised: to make accessible all relevant records in relation to day care, and improve knowledge and understanding of requirements set out in regulation. All required records are now accessible, however, the provider shows no improvement in understanding the requirements set out in regulation. Therefore this impacts on the organisation of the setting and care children receive.

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 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:

- improve knowledge and understanding of the requirements set out in regulations and set in place a procedure to notify Ofsted of relevant matters.
- develop procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

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 *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