

Buddies Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY284408
Inspection date	12 March 2008
Inspector	Krystina Chitryn

Setting Address	8-10 Glendore, Weaste, Salford, Lancashire, M5 5EY
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Registered person	Fun4All CIC
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Type of inspection	Childcare
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Type of care	Out of School care, Crèche
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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?

Buddies Childcare was registered in 2004. It operates from a converted building in the Weaste area of Salford. Children have access to a large playroom and bathroom facilities. A communal play area to the rear of the property and a small yard is available for outdoor play.

The crèche serves the local community and is used by parents attending courses on site. The group also operates an out of school and holiday club. The staff collect children from Tootal Drive Primary School.

The crèche is open from 13:00 to 15:00 Monday to Friday and from 09:00 to 18:00 each Saturday.

The after school club is open Monday to Friday from 15:10 to 17:30, during term time. There are 23 children aged from three to 11 years on roll.

The holiday club is open Monday to Friday from 09:00 to 17:00 during the school holidays. There are 35 children aged from three to 11 years on roll.

The after school club and holiday club are known as The Matchstick Clubs. The setting supports a number of children and is able to support children with special needs and are also able to support children who speak English as an additional language.

The provision employs 17 staff. 14 of the staff, including the manager hold appropriate early years qualifications. Three staff are commencing their training to gain a qualification. The group has received New Opportunity Funding and also receives support from the Early Years and Childcare Partnership.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are effectively protected from infection through satisfactory hygiene routines and the building is cleaned daily. Children are reminded to wash their hands prior to snack time. They discuss good hygiene and development and have displays about being healthy. The children are aware of the reasons why they wash their hands and this extends their knowledge of good practices and what is good for them.

Staff provide healthy snacks, which include toast, hot cross buns and apples. The children are involved with serving the food and choose what they want to eat. This enables the children to develop their independence and develops social interaction during snack time. Drinks are available at all times as there is a drinks machine in the area. This ensures that children are hydrated or make choices about drinking.

Children have satisfactory access to outdoor play activities in the small yard or access to the community outside play area. They visit the local swimming baths each week. This supports their physical skills and enables children to participate in robust and active games.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The children benefit from adequate space, both indoors and outside. They have adequate light and natural ventilation. Children use toilet facilities appropriately, which are cleaned daily. Children benefit from a good quality range of equipment, which is clean and well maintained. Children are kept safe through the provision of equipment that meets the required safety standards. They benefit from a suitable range of toys and equipment which are accessible.

Children are kept safe through risk assessments, which are completed daily by staff. Children learn fire safety procedures and fire detection equipment is present. Fire evacuations are practised and recorded. This ensures children are familiar with the evacuation routines and are kept safe.

Staff are aware of the procedure to follow regarding safeguarding children and all have attended training. This helps to ensure potential harm is minimised and vulnerable children are protected. Parents are informed of the safeguarding procedures on admission.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy coming to the club. They have an extensive variety of planned and free choice activities, all of which are appropriate to the ages and interests of the children who attend. The rooms are divided into different areas of play and the children go swimming one night each week. The rooms are set up so that the children can make their own choices from the range of activities available. Children are given the choice of playing indoors or outdoors. On the day of the visit the children arrive from school and have their snacks before they go to the swimming baths. Some of the children say it is their favourite activity.

The wide range of activities includes dressing up and imaginative play boxes. The children cooperate with one another at snack time and share and serve one another. The children were seen to cooperate with adults and their peers, as they discuss their day at school, thus, ensuring that children feel valued. The children laugh and enjoy the time spent together in the group. Children are valued and staff listen and talk to them throughout their time at the setting

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

All children are treated with equal concern. Staff have a good understanding of anti-discriminatory practice in order to support positive attitudes being fostered. Children have extensive access to a broad range of activities and resources to promote their understanding of the wider world. There are positive images around the room of people from other cultures. They have recently celebrated Chinese New Year. Boys and girls are encouraged to participate in all areas of play.

Staff are aware of and support children's differences in the group to ensure that their individual needs are catered for. The children are learning about right and wrong. Children learn in an environment where good behaviour is fostered, and as a result the children are aware of the expectations. Staff praise, encourage and use appropriate methods to ensure that the children are fully aware of the group's rules. The children have been involved with the creation of the groups rules and they have developed rules and expectation for the adult's behaviour. This enables the children to feel part of the group and valued.

Staff provide parents with written and verbal information about the policies and procedures on admission. This ensures they are given sufficient information to enable parents to have a full understanding of the groups practice. Families are made to feel welcome and generally information is shared verbally on a daily basis.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The organisation of space is good as the room is divided into different areas of play to accommodate active and quieter periods during the session. Records are maintained to a satisfactory standard, however, the register is taken off the premises when the children go swimming and this does not provide an accurate record. Records are retained for suitable period and all records are stored securely on site. The documentation currently in place supports and promotes children's well-being. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the group were asked to review the organisation of adult initiated activity. The group ensure that children have choices and adults support the children in their choices.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that require 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 complaint 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):

- ensure the register is available on the premises at all times.

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