



HARROW LEISURE CENTRE CRECHE

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 148022
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Inspector Julie Biddle

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Type of inspection Childcare
Type of 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Harrow Leisure Centre Crèche opened in 1999. It operates from a purpose built building in the leisure centre. The Crèche serves parents using the leisure centre for up to two hours.

The Crèche opens five days a week all year round, sessions are from 9.00 to 15.00.

Nine staff work on a full time or part time basis staff. Over half the staff have early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The children are cared for in a warm and clean setting. The level of hygiene is good and staff take steps to prevent the spread of infection to protect children, for example children do not attend if they are ill.

Children are well cared for due to the efficient procedures in place for first aid, accidents, and medication all of which are shared with parents. Staff have first aid certificates.

Parents provide snacks for the children. Staff ensure children are able to enjoy snack time with suitable utensils and a clean area to sit. Children are provided with water if they request a drink.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. There are good systems in place to protect children from danger as staff are vigilant about persons entering the crèche. However, the written policy in place with regard to late or uncollected children, does not cover the procedure to follow.

Staff have a good understanding of the need to continuously maintain safety. Children are able to move around freely as staff have made good use of the available space and minimised hazards.

Children use a good range of developmentally appropriate resources. The resources available meet safety standards and are arranged so children have accessibility.

Children's welfare is safeguarded as the required documents are in place. Staff have a clear understanding of child protection procedures.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are very confident and comfortable in the crèche as staff give the children lots of positive attention. Interaction between the staff and children is lovely. Staff show much interest in the children and respond to their requests and needs promptly which develops their confidence.

Toys, puzzles and books are stored so they are within easy reach of the children which enables them to make independent choices. Children do not have the opportunity to play outside, however children are enabled to select resources that encourage physical play, for example cars to sit in or push.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are learning about themselves and the world around them through planned activities, for example making fireworks. Children are happy and generally cooperative, they are learning to play with each other and are encouraged to share by staff.

Staff discuss and record the needs of children, which helps them settle and feel comfortable. Staff have consistent boundaries when managing behaviour which means children know what is expected of them. Parents are welcomed into the crèche and help to settle their children in, for example each day a staff list is displayed so parents know who is on duty. Parents are given detailed information about the crèche including booking in systems and child protection policy.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children benefit from the time and attention the staff are able to give to them, they are very happy and settled in the environment.

Staff have sound knowledge and understanding of the needs of young children, this means children feel confident and secure in the crèche

Policies and procedures are in place and up to date. Staff share them with parents and make sure they are kept informed about their children. Systems for good record keeping are in place as a result children's welfare is promoted.

The setting 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 ensure the deputy had a level 3 NVQ to allow her to deputise in the absence of the manager. This has now been achieved, this means that at all times the person managing the crèche is qualified to do so.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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

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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 policy for late or uncollected children is clear and includes procedure to follow.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk