

Dazu at Memorial Hall

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	135277
Inspection date	13 August 2008
Inspector	Diana Pidgeon

Setting Address	Memorial Hall, Maldon Road, London, N9 9QP
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Telephone number	020 8373 2718
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E-mail

Registered person	Dazu
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Type of inspection	Childcare
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Type of care	Out of School care
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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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Dazu at Memorial Hall is one of two holiday play schemes run by a voluntary organisation. It opened in 1990 and operates from the Memorial Hall in the Edmonton area of the London Borough of Enfield. Children have access to the main hall and adjacent toilet facilities. The premises are within walking distance of local transport facilities and amenities. The club normally operates for two or three days during the school half terms, and summer holidays. Children attend from 09:30 to 16:00.

Dazu is registered for a maximum of 30 children from five to under eight years at any one time. Children from the ages of five to 11 years attend the club. There are currently 815 children on roll. The group is an inclusive provision that serves children from the local community and schools. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and those who are young carers.

The organisation employs a pool of 35 full and part-time staff who are available to work with the children. At least half the staff hold an early years qualification or specific skills and specialism in arts, drama and physical education.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is promoted because staff implement appropriate cleaning routines so that all areas of the premises are suitable for use. Tables are wiped before and after being used and any spills are dealt with promptly. Children are generally independent in their personal care and understand when and why they need to wash their hands. They do this with minimal reminders from the staff. Suitable policies and procedures are in place to protect children if they are sick or injured. There are always staff who are trained to administer first aid working with the children and first aid kits are readily available in the event of an emergency.

Consequently, children receive appropriate treatment if they are injured. All minor accidents are clearly recorded in the accident book and verbally reported to parents. However, parents do not routinely sign the record to acknowledge that they have been informed. Children's medical needs are generally well documented on their enrolment forms and staff ensure they have sufficient information to meet the needs of each child. Although systems are in place to record the process of administering medication to children these are not always fully used and at times key information fails to be logged clearly. This does not fully support the children or assist in their future care.

Children enjoy a sociable experience as they sit around the tables with staff to eat their packed lunches. They are very clear why they must not share their food and staff have a good knowledge of any children with food allergies. During sessions children are provided with a drink of diluted juice at the break times between activities.

Children have regular opportunities to play actively. They enjoy organised games indoors such as 'cat and mouse' and are active within the drama sessions. Many children enjoy indoor ball games, such as shooting into the basketball ring. Children often go on short trips to the local park where they benefit from outdoor sports coaching sessions and the use of playground equipment. This allows them to develop their physical skills and to benefit from being in the fresh air.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children stay safe because staff identify and minimise risks within the environment. A formal risk assessment is in place and addresses many of the potential hazards within the community building. For example, the outdoor area is currently unsuitable for use and therefore is not being used for the duration of this scheme. External doors are secured once most children have arrived and staff monitor children's ongoing safety through appropriate levels of supervision. Children understand what to do in the event of a fire as this has been practised with them and staff remind them at the start of each session.

Children play in the spacious hall where they have sufficient room to move around and be active. At times the hall is divided into two areas to allow for the grouping of children as they take part in adult-led activities. Suitable toys and equipment are set out to enable the children to find activities that interest them. These are appropriately maintained and presented. Toilet facilities are provided at both ends of the hall, which allows children to access these independently. Staff make use of the kitchen for the storage and preparation of food and drinks. Children understand that they are not allowed to enter this area.

Children's welfare is safeguarded as all staff have a sound understanding of their roles and responsibilities towards protecting children. Relevant training is provided for all staff and they know how to implement the holiday scheme's policy and procedure. This ensures staff would act in the children's best interests if they had any concerns about their welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by familiar and caring adults. Good relationships are clearly established so that children readily approach staff and engage them in their activities. Staff instil a sense of fun in what they do and create a happy environment. As a result most children readily take part in games and group activities. During the scheme children have opportunities to express themselves through drama, art and music and benefit from taking part in a variety of sports based activities.

Children enjoy working with a range of media. Planned activities by art specialists introduce ideas to the children who then use their own creativity to produce pictures and models. For example, children use templates to construct three dimensional animals such as crocodiles, lions and giraffes. Older children extend the activity to make appropriate background scenes for their creatures, whilst some younger children use their animals for play. Children are rightly proud of their work and are eager to take it home with them. Children's imagination is further fostered through well-planned drama sessions. Children act out familiar stories and express their own ideas and thoughts as they respond to imaginary situations.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children show a real sense of belonging and are happy and settled in the holiday scheme. Staff listen to what children say and include their ideas within the planned activities, which helps the children to feel valued. At circle time children are warmly welcomed and play games that encourage them to get to know others in the group. Through activities, discussions and play opportunities children learn about the traditions and customs of others and raise their awareness of diversity. There is a strong commitment to inclusion. Staff are skilled in dealing with individual needs and provide effective support to ensure all children are able to participate in the activities. Sufficient staff work in the scheme to allow for close support and individual attention when this is required.

Children's behaviour is managed skilfully by the staff. They are calm and consistent in their approach and act as very good role models for the children. For example, they work with the children as they tidy away items and thank them for their help. Children clearly understand the expectations for their behaviour and are aware of the club rules that they have helped to write. Most children play and work cooperatively with others and have little difficulty taking turns or sharing resources. Older children frequently help their younger friends and many children show acts of kindness to others. Children's self-esteem is promoted through staff acknowledging when they do well and giving all children praise and support. Any challenging behaviour is dealt with sensitively and with the full understanding of the individual needs of each child. Children are given space to deal with their emotions and support to find activities that interest them.

Children benefit from the successful partnerships with parents. Many children use other facilities provided by the organisation and some return to the holiday scheme each year. Parents receive

written information about the service and an annual report. Information is exchanged on a daily basis as parents bring and collect their children and this contributes to ensuring their care needs are fully met.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by a team of enthusiastic and committed staff, who work for the organisation. Appropriate recruitment procedures are used to employ staff and they all undergo appropriate checks to ensure their suitability. Staff receive an appropriate induction to the holiday scheme and attend training to support their work with the children. Levels of staffing are generous to allow for the needs of the children attending. This means children may have the undivided attention of an adult when required. Staff have a range of skills and qualifications that are used effectively to engage and motivate the children during adult-led activities.

Appropriate policies and procedures are in place to guide the management of the setting and staff are able to implement these effectively. Children's records are complete and stored in a generally accessible way. Children's attendance is recorded although their times of arrival and departure, where these differ from the session times, are not made clear. The signing in and out sheet currently does not show times of attendance for children or staff. This means an accurate record of attendance is not available for future reference if needed. The provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Since the last inspection the setting has put in place systems to undertake routine risk assessments on the premises and to take any action needed. As a result, the safety and security of the premises has been improved and fire exits are able to be opened in the event of an emergency. Fire drills are completed at times throughout the scheme and a record of these is held. The setting also ensured vetting procedures were completed for the staff. By taking these steps the safety of the children is improved. The provider has updated the child protection policy so that procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff are in place. Following the last inspection a signing in and out system was established to record children's times of attendance. Although there is some evidence to show this was used previously times of attendance are not being recorded at present. This recommendation is carried forward from this inspection.

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):

- improve the documentation regarding the administration of medication with respect to ensuring parents always give clear written permission to administer medication, that clear records are held and that parents sign to acknowledge the entry and ensure accident records are always signed by the parent
- ensure the system for registering children and staff shows their hours of attendance.

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