



Woodgate Adventure Playground

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 227023

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Inspector Judith Chinnery

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Registered person Woodgate Adventure Playground

Type of inspection Childcare

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

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Woodgate Adventure Playground opened in 1982 as an open access facility, operating from an enclosed play space which includes an outdoor climbing and activity area, an indoor ball court, a games room, computer room and art room. It is situated in the Woodgate area of the city and draws children from the immediate area as well as Newfoundpool and beyond.

There are a maximum of 40 places available to children aged under eight years and there are currently 35 children aged under eight years on roll. Children are welcome to attend until the term after their 14th birthday. The project supports children who

have special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The project opens from 15.00 until 18.00 five days a week during school term time. It also opens from 11.00 until 13.30 and from 14.00 until 17.00 during most school holidays.

There are three full-time project workers who work with the children all year round, they are all suitably qualified. Additional staff are recruited for the school holidays. The facility is a voluntary project, which receives some support from the Local Authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's good health and well-being is promoted well in the setting. Staff follow appropriate guidelines when cooking with the children and encourage children to wash their hands regularly to minimise the spread of infection.

Drinking water is readily available to children and they can purchase sugar free drinks from the tuck shop ensuring they have sufficient to drink whilst playing. However, while staff have made every effort to encourage children to eat more fruit and reduce the sugar and additive content of the sweets in the tuck shop, access to healthy food is limited. Children are developing their knowledge of healthy exercise and practice through the themes and topics covered in their winter programme.

Physical exercise is a key aspect of the play ground which the children really enjoy. They make extensive use of the large climbing structures to climb balance and swing. Football tournaments are popular and enjoyed by both boys and girls.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are well cared for in an environment where safety is given a high priority. The large outdoor climbing structures are well maintained and all areas are carefully risk assessed to minimise risks and accidents to children.

Children use well chosen and appropriate resources and equipment safely. Staff give clear instructions on how to use equipment and children take responsibility for keeping themselves safe by using resources as they have been taught. Children are kept safe on outings because staff plan them well, obtain parental permission and ensure that children wear suitable seat belts in the minibuses. Although children are free to come and go from the playground due to its open access nature, the staff are vigilant and ensure that unwanted visitors do not pose a risk to the children.

Children are protected because staff know child protection procedures well. Leaders

have a clear understanding of how to record and report any concerns they may have.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Care learning and play experiences for children are well promoted by the staff. Good relationships with the staff help children feel secure and their gentle encouragement to use equipment builds children's confidence well.

Children are eager to get involved in the available activities. They are excited by the new components to the large structures as they enthusiastically try them out. Children work harmoniously together as they cooperate with each other to make the swings and baskets move. They have great fun dressing up with wigs and costumes, taking on the roles of famous people.

More intricate tasks working with beads enable children to develop their concentration and fine finger skills. They use their initiative well as they make choices and work out how to use activities and play equipment. Staff use impromptu situations such as talking about and showing children how to use the grasses growing in the playground well. This introduces children to nature and the skills to use their imagination as well as to explore their environment with their senses.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff know the children well and form good relationships with parents so that they can meet their individual needs effectively. Staff work closely with children who have special needs ensuring that they can use the large structures safely. A project with the local branch of the British Red Cross Society ensures that all children can be included in activities and easily access the playground. Staff have a good knowledge of equal opportunities and promote awareness of other cultures and beliefs through topics and theme, enabling children to develop respect for themselves and each other.

Most children behave really well in the setting. Rules, particularly those to do with safety are clear and well established by the staff. Children respond positively to the praise and encouragement of the staff.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The playground is effectively led and managed by a well established and strong staff team. Staff are suitably qualified and experienced in caring for and protecting children.

The recruitment of extra staff during the busy summer period ensures that children

are well supervised. They are effectively deployed around the playground so that children are well supported and can take an active part in the setting. Good policies and procedures are in place and underpin staff's practice in promoting children's health, safety and enjoyment. The provision meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was asked to improve staff qualifications; provide a risk assessment of any hazards and amend some aspects of their policies and procedures.

Since the last inspection the setting has ensured that all permanent year-round staff are suitably qualified to level three in play work. Comprehensive risk assessments are regularly reviewed and clearly identify hazards enabling staff to minimise risks to children. Alterations to their policies and procedures have ensured they are up to date and support the practice of the staff.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

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 that children have access to healthy choices in food and drinks

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