

More Grace Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY374563
Inspection date 29/09/2008
Inspector Lisa Paisley

Setting address Eversley Leisure Centre, Crest Avenue, BASILDON, Essex,
SS13 2EF

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Type of setting Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

More Grace Day Nursery and Out of School Club is privately owned. It opened in 2008, the nursery operates from a large hall, with adjacent smaller rooms and the out of school provision is located within a room on the first floor of the Eversley Leisure Centre in Basildon, Essex. The building is easily accessible for people with physical disabilities. A maximum of 60 children may attend the provision at any one time. The setting is open each weekday from 07.30 until 18.30 all year round.

There are currently 12 children aged from one to under eight years on roll. There are currently eight children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This provision is registered by Ofsted on the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. Children come from the local area.

The provision employs six staff. All of the staff, including both managers, hold appropriate early years qualifications. Two staff members are currently attending training. The setting receives support from the local authority.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Grace More Day Nursery makes satisfactory provision for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage and has some positive aspects to the setting. This includes partnership with parents, where staff spend time settling children and discussing their needs with the parents. Staff create a welcoming and comfortable environment in which all children are equally cared for and have ongoing opportunities to succeed. There are secure links with other professionals this includes the local partnerships, other nurseries and the area Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO), this ensures that the provision receives appropriate support and advice.

The management team is not fully established and the formal self-evaluation process has not yet been undertaken; resulting in a lack of understanding with regards to strengths and weakness within the provision. However, staff have been supported in their roles and they are beginning to work well together, ensuring improvements can be achieved and sustained.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- ensure parents signatures are obtained when recording accidents and incidents
- review the organisation of resources, equipment and play activities to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the children
- continue to plan and organise children's activity plans to ensure the six areas of learning are sufficiently covered
- develop systems to monitor, assess and self-evaluate the provision.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Secure systems are in place to ensure that all the required policies and procedures are implemented for the safe and secure management of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage and children attending the out of school provision. All staff are vetted and suitable recruitment and induction procedures are in place. Staff are provided with continued support to ensure training needs are identified and professional development is maintained. As a result, staff are supported in their roles.

Secure team working by staff ensures that the overall welfare of children is fully supported and suitably promoted. Managers and staff meet regularly to develop practice, however, self-evaluation systems are not yet in place to ensure continuous improvement is achieved and maintained. Information about children's needs and progress flows well between home and the provision.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are provided with daily play and learning opportunities to help them make progress across all areas of learning and development. Activity plans are in place, however, they require further consolidation to ensure the six areas of learning are sufficiently covered. An inclusive environment is successfully promoted as staff plan for children's individual needs. Planning is based on children's interests and abilities to ensure children are interested in their play and enjoy exploring their environment. However, the organisation of resources and play activities require further development to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the children. Staff working with the out of school children warmly welcomes them into the setting, planned discussion groups allow children to talk about recent events such as family holidays and staff exchange key information, for example, fire safety.

Children are happy, settled and confident within the provision, they develop secure relationships with staff and their peers as they actively participate in shared activities, for example, the play dough and water play. Children use a range of vocabulary to discuss everyday experiences such as birthday parties. Mark making activities are available for children where they can experiment with a range of tools, this includes pencils and chinks. There is a selection of books and stories for children, however, books are not always accessible to children, limiting their appreciation for stories. Children enjoy positive relationships with the staff and each other. They respond well to staff requests and children behave well while at the provision. Staff support children's learning of early mathematical concepts through daily routines such as singing number rhymes and using appropriate language. Children learn about the natural world through daily walks around the local environment, providing opportunities for children to observe the natural environment such as horses and squirrels. Their imaginations and self-expression is supported through a range of creative and role play activities that are provided on a daily basis. Children's physical development is encouraged through regular opportunities to physical play, they enjoy riding tricycles, going through play tunnels and going up and down slides. All children move safely around the setting as they

successfully negotiate all areas of play.

Suitable steps are taken by staff to ensure that they are safe at all times, this includes daily risk assessments and practising regular fire drills. Procedures are in place to support children whom become unwell or have an accident; however, parent's signatures have not always been obtained on accident and incident records. Children learn to keep themselves safe as they are reminded to tidy away toys and use equipment and play resources appropriately. They are able to independently access fresh drinking water, ensuring they remain hydrated at all times. Meals and snacks are freshly prepared on site, ensuring that they are low in salt and sugar content. Staff have a clear understanding of children's dietary needs and requirements, promoting children's health and well-being.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

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

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	Satisfactory
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Satisfactory
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Satisfactory

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Satisfactory
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Satisfactory
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Satisfactory
How well are children safeguarded?	Satisfactory

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Satisfactory
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Satisfactory

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website:
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

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 requirements of the Early Years Register.

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.