

Bloxwich West Children's Centre Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY347418
Inspection date	18/09/2008
Inspector	Jasvinder Kaur/ Esther Gray
Setting address	Bloxwich West Childrens Centre, Mossley Centre, Mossley Lane, WALSALL, WS3 2SF
Telephone number	01922 405037
Email	
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).

Description of the setting

Bloxwich West Children's Centre is one of three children's centres in the immediate area and is set within the grounds of Mossely Primary School. The centre opened in 2007. It operates from two main open-plan care rooms, with a secure garden at the rear of the purpose built nursery. The premises are easily accessible for children with mobility issues as all areas including disabled toilet are located on the ground floor. The centre is in the Mossley Estate and serves the local area. It has strong links with both of the local schools.

A maximum of 21 children may attend the setting at any one time. There are currently 30 children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage. Of these, five children receive funding for early years provision. The setting provides a variety of services to the community, which includes a health clinic and post natal and education classes for parents. Support is provided for teenage parents and a crèche is provided in support for some of these activities.

The setting currently supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. It opens five days a week all year round. Sessions are from 08:00 until 18:00. Children are able to attend for a variety of sessions.

The setting employs 10 members of child care staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The partnership with parents, the local community and other agencies is a key strength and contributes significantly to ensuring that the needs of all children are met very well and they get any additional support they need. Children settle well and are involved in a range of activities which they enjoy. This means children make good progress in the Early Years Foundation Stage. However, observation and assessment of children's attitudes to learning are not always used well to plan their next steps in learning. Although the manager and staff are dedicated to making continuous improvements, resulting in providing a safe and secure environment, a few staff have limited knowledge concerning safeguarding children issues.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- improve practitioners knowledge and ability further to assess children's capability to inform the next steps towards the early learning goals
- ensure induction training helps new staff to understand that how the provision identifies child protection issues.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children's welfare, care and safety are promoted competently. The staff are well aware of health and safety regulations through well documented policies, procedures and regular visits from the health and safety officer from the local authority. Rigorous procedures are in place for ensuring that children are cared for by staff who have appropriate qualifications, experience and have completed appropriate checks. They also take pleasure in working with children. They have a clear understanding of safeguarding children, so that the children are protected. They are also aware of their responsibility to report any concerns to the Local Safeguarding Children Board. With the exception of a few staff members most staff including the manager demonstrate a good understanding of what to do in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff and the implications this may have for their practice. Regular quality checks and self-assessment enable the setting to identify targets for further improvements. Recent examples are improvements to the outdoor play area allowing open access, improving staff knowledge and understanding of behaviour management issues and acquiring a teacher mentor to ensure ongoing training in the area of Early Years Foundation Stage.

Inclusive practice is very well promoted so that all children have their welfare needs met and achieve as well as they can regardless of background. All children have great opportunities to learn about themselves, each other and the world around them through planned activities, resources and visual aids, for example posters in different languages. Currently there are no children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities attending the setting, but the staff have past experience and would ensure that they work with parents to meet each child's needs. Some staff have attended further relevant training. Consequently, staff are able to be proactive in providing an inclusive service. Staff actively seek parents' views about their children's needs and interests before they start at the setting, and on a regular basis throughout their time there. Parents are encouraged to comment on the provision. Comments show how parents value the high standard of care and learning given to their children. Regular newsletters keep parents informed of the activities and events within the setting and how they can become more involved.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children make good progress through staff recognising the uniqueness of each child. An effective key worker system ensures children are cared for by a consistent use of staff whenever possible. Children benefit from sufficient child to staff ratios. As a result children have good individual attention where required and this helps their development. They settle well and are involved in a range of activities which they enjoy. Good quality resources are deployed effectively to enable children to have free access and make choices in their play.

Children understand the importance of basic personal hygiene and wash their hands before they eat and after using the toilet, playing in the sand, painting or other messy activities. They have good awareness of oral hygiene as they are encouraged to brush their teeth after eating. They make healthy choices about what they eat

and drink. All staff hold a current first aid certificate. Medication and accident records are well maintained and shared with parents, who countersign all entries. Access to the open plan outdoor play area, the use of physical play equipment and enthusiastic participation in outdoor games promote children's physical development. Their coordination and spatial awareness develops as they enjoy taking part in a variety of group games.

Children are well behaved and have a good awareness of right and wrong, responding positively to guidance and instruction from staff. They are frequently encouraged and praised and their efforts are acknowledged through displays of their own work. Written risk assessments are effective in identifying and reducing potential hazards on the premises. Children learn how to keep themselves safe through arranged activities, daily routines and simple rules of which they are reminded in their play.

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?	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Good

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

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

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 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 registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action.

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.