

# Play With Us

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number**

EY291923

**Inspection date**

19/09/2008

**Inspector**

Nick Butt

**Setting address**

Winsor County School, East Ham Manor Way, Beckton,  
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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).

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

Play With Us is a private organisation. It opened in January 2005 and is located within the grounds of Winsor Primary School. The group operates from a two-roomed portacabin, play hall and sports hall situated within the main school building. There is a secure enclosed outdoor play area. The group is located in a residential area of Beckton in Newham, within reach of a shopping centre and the Docklands Light Railway. A maximum of 32 children may attend the group at any one time. The operating times are as follows: breakfast club from 07.30 to 8.55; after school club from 15.15 to 18.00 term time only. The holiday play scheme operates from 08.00 to 18.00.

There are currently four children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Care for children over five years is also provided. Children attending the group come from the local catchment area and are pupils of Winsor Primary School. There are seven members of staff employed to work with children. They hold either NVQ level 3 or playwork qualifications. This provider is on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Play With Us makes good provision for children in the EYFS. Through the dynamic and energetic leadership of its manager, very good relationships are established with children, parents and carers. The well-qualified staff offer a wide range of exciting and enjoyable activities for the children in a safe environment. Consequently, children make good progress in acquiring some new skills. However, the activities do not sufficiently cover all the intended outcomes for children of this age and they are helped to learn and develop satisfactorily overall. Some staff are not familiar with the early learning goals of the EYFS yet. The manager knows the strengths and areas to develop of the setting well, through regular monitoring and discussions with staff, children, parents and carers.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure all staff are familiar with the early learning goals children are working towards in the EYFS

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

Safeguarding procedures are robust and all required policies are in place. Risk assessments are thorough, with a daily check of the premises to ensure the accommodation is safe. The manager places great store on developing her staff, tailoring training to meet individual needs. For example, staff have been trained in

working with children with autism and with severe disabilities. Self-evaluation is frequent and perceptive, and all staff are encouraged to contribute to discussions. The manager is constantly seeking to develop the provision, and is already taking steps to ensure that the provision fully meets recent new requirements. There is a good capacity for continuous improvement. As a result of the previous inspection report's recommendation, children have many opportunities to experience different cultures and celebrate their own. These include tasting foods from different nations and practising drumming. The accident book is now filled out correctly with the children's full names.

Parents are very positive about the setting. One said, 'My child has settled well and is happy'. The manager considers the club's work with parents and carers a particular strength, seeing them more as friends than as clients. There are also good relationships with other partners in children's learning, such as the host school. The setting exchanges information regularly with the school about what children are doing.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Staff provide a rich variety of activities that keep children active and healthy and promote their independence. Children take part in Salsa dancing and basketball with specialist coaches, relishing the opportunity to take on the bigger children. A child who holed a basket was delighted and spontaneously applauded by the other children. The ethos of the club is such that the older children encourage and support the younger ones, and this makes a significant contribution to the development of their confidence and enjoyment.

Frequent assessments take place of children's development and skills, and changes are made to the provision to reflect their changing needs. For example, sewing activities are adapted for the youngest children to enable them to participate fully. Staff are aware of how children are doing on a day-to-day basis, but are not all conversant with the early learning goals of the EYFS, which would assist their planning. They enable pupils to make sound progress in developing their skills.

Children eat healthily at the club, and assist in preparing the food. They select their own fillings for a baked potato and drink water or milk. There is a rota for washing up and setting out, which teaches responsibility and adds to the positive communal atmosphere of the club. Children are encouraged to play independently and creatively, with a wide range of resources available to support role-play.

Plans for the holiday club reveal that children's experiences are widened through a series of day trips to places of interest, including developing media at Television Centre, and building rockets at the Maritime Museum. Children who went for a boat ride through Westminster on the Thames said they 'felt posh'.

Staff support children's learning well and are sympathetic to their needs. They give them the freedom to make choices and encourage their speaking and listening skills through discussion. There is a good mixture of adult-led and child-chosen activities.

The provision includes both indoor and outdoor facilities and pupils are free to move between them.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### Overall effectiveness

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b> | 2 |
| How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?   | 2 |
| The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.   | 2 |

### Leadership and management

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>          | 2 |
| How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement? | 2 |
| How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?                            | 2 |
| How well are children safeguarded?  | 2 |

### Quality and standards

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>  | 3 |
| <b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>       | 2 |
| How well are children helped to stay safe?  | 2 |
| How well are children helped to be healthy?   | 2 |
| How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?  | 2 |
| How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?   | 2 |
| How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being? | 3 |

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](http://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**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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.