

Newton Abbot Leisure Centre Holiday Clubs

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY285683
Inspection date	28/10/2008
Inspector	Janet Butlin
Setting address	Newton Abbot Leisure Centre, Highweek Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 2SH
Telephone number	01626 215644
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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

Newton Abbot Leisure Centre Holiday Clubs operate in various rooms at Newton Abbot Leisure Centre in Devon. The setting is accessed from the car park which is on the level and there is a lift to all floors and facilities used by children. The provision is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, to care for 64 children up to eight years old. Children are grouped into the M & M Group for those aged from three to five years, and in the High Five group for those aged five to eight years. The club is open from 08.00 to 17.00 Monday to Friday during school holidays only. There is also a crèche which currently runs on three mornings a week for up to an additional 26 children under the age of eight years, 21 of whom may be in the Early Years age range. The number of children actually attending this crèche is variable. The setting cares for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. A staff group of 43 are employed and managed by Teignbridge District Council across their four leisure centre settings and they have appropriate qualifications. Staff work between the various groups within the centre.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are well cared for and enjoy their time in the setting. Routines are in place to support good care, although some methods lack rigour. High priority is given to ensuring that all children feel welcome and included, and there is close communication with parents and other agencies in this respect. The setting have been extremely proactive in implementing improvements since the previous inspection, and have also identified areas for future development, for example, extending understanding of the learning and development requirements. Their capacity to improve is very good.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure a more enabling environment is prepared in all rooms used by children and develop the way in which the planned activities help children to meet the learning and development requirements
- improve the way that packed lunches are stored to ensure the contents remain fresh

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The setting review and evaluate their practice and are proud of having successfully completed a quality assurance programme. Since the last inspection significant improvements have been made to hygiene, safety and organisation overall. They have recently begun to engage with a new system of self evaluation and have identified areas for continued improvement.

There is a good partnership with parents, as well as with outside agencies who support children. Great care is taken to ensure that children feel comfortable in the setting and have key members of staff who they feel secure with. Children with specific needs are extremely sensitively supported and children develop a good sense of self as, for example, their individual methods of communication are respected and embraced. Parents are keen to respond to questionnaires and give their comments regarding the provision. These comments are generally very positive.

The setting ensures that children are extremely closely supervised in their activities and have rigorous procedures in place to keep them safe when using the pool, for example, staff help children to understand the importance of behaving responsibly in this area. Staff have a secure understanding of the child protection procedures and the setting ensures that all who come into contact with children are suitable to do so.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children attending in the school holidays enjoy all the activities at the centre and respond well to the nature and spirit of the provision. They confidently move from one room to another, eagerly telling staff and visitors about their favourite activities. They look forward to story times, gathering in anticipation and listening enthralled as they identify the rhyming sounds in the text. They count and measure in their cooking activities. They explore the texture of their cooking materials and observe how they change. Children enjoy imaginative role-play, for example developing and building train track layouts. They develop their large muscles as they jump on the trampoline during well supervised sessions. They also become confident in the swimming pool and staff support them extremely well. Staff know each child very well and take great care to ensure they are secure and well settled. They present activities in the school holidays that generally link to the children's interests and experience, for example following the theme of Divali that has been explored at the local schools. Children who attend the crèche facility enjoy a range of activities generally appropriate to their age. Planning activities to more specifically link to stages of development and learning is an area the setting intend to develop.

Children learn a little about healthy eating by discussion. They bring packed lunches from home, but the way these are monitored and stored does not reliably ensure that the contents in all packs are kept at an appropriate temperature. Children are kept very secure in the setting and rigorous safety systems are applied to ensure children are protected and prevented from leaving the premises unsupervised. Although the system of recording attendance is a little complex it provides evidence of who is on the premises. Children are very well behaved and polite and respond very positively to the calm manner of the adults who are caring for them. They hold doors open for their friends, and for staff, and offer to help. They are learning skills for the future as they share, take turns and learn to communicate effectively with their playmates.

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?	Satisfactory
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?	Satisfactory
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 B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory 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 registration or the last inspection that required the provider to take 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.