



Derby West Indian Community Association Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number 257818

Inspection date 24 August 2005

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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?

Derby West Indian Community Centre play scheme was registered in 1986. It is situated in Derby City and operates from the community centre. There is no outside play area. The play scheme is registered to care for fifty children aged from seven years old. There are currently twenty four children on the roll. The play scheme serves West Indian, African, and people of West Indian/African heritage, their family and friends in the local community and surrounding areas.

The group opens Monday to Friday during the summer holidays. Sessions are from 11am until 3pm. There are four members of staff working with the children, two have

childcare qualifications. There are also volunteers and visitors in attendance during the scheme.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

The children have good opportunities to participate in active play, for example they take part in activities such as dance, tae-kwon-do, table tennis, pool and sports tournaments at the park. This means that children's physical development is encouraged. The children know when they need to rest, for example, after playing table tennis children were observed sitting at tables to rest. However, they are not able to rest and relax according to their individual needs as an appropriate rest area is not readily available.

The children have an understanding of the importance of a healthy diet as the staff do address such issues with them. For example, activities around healthy eating and foods were included in the plans and children were able to take part in 'ready steady cook' where they made their own healthy sandwiches from a variety of fresh and healthy ingredients. However, children's dietary needs are not met overall. The provider does not work well with parents to meet each child's individual needs. Some of the children do not always benefit from a healthy diet as those who do not bring a packed lunch are provided with a chip shop meal. This means that children eat unhealthily at times and staff do not advise parents as to what are healthy options.

The children are protected from illness because the staff have a good understanding of infectious diseases. Parents are aware that children must not attend if unwell and may put others at risk of infection. Sick children are well cared for, protecting others from illness and infection. Parents are contacted if their children are taken ill while at the play scheme. The registered person is very strict, parents using the scheme are aware of his expectations.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are cared for in a welcoming, secure and safe environment where risks are identified and minimised. The children's artwork is on display, for example, flags of the Caribbean and photographs are displayed depicting activities and events such as the Caribbean carnival, potters wheel, dance, music, making of carnival costumes and visits out. The children have access to toys and equipment which are clean and in a satisfactory state of repair. Regular checks are carried out on the toys and equipment, ensuring children are safe. The staff and the children check equipment as it is used and make good use of the materials available to them.

Risks of accidental injuries to children are minimised because the staff are vigilant and use risk assessments to reduce potential hazards. They take appropriate

measures to ensure safety in and out of the building. For example, when the play scheme is in operation it is used only for that purpose and the children are not allowed to wander freely. As this is a community building people do come and go, every visitor is challenged.

The children know and comply with safety and care routines including practising the fire evacuation procedure. The staff sit down and discuss these with the children at the beginning of the play scheme and each morning they get together to talk about how the previous days session went, any issues are addressed/discussed with the children to prevent happening again. This means that children learn to keep themselves safe.

The children are well protected because staff are vigilant and have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in the protection of children. For example, there is a very thorough child protection policy in place. The permanent staff are all very experienced and knowledgeable and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The children are comfortable in the setting because parents regularly share information about their children's needs, interests and experiences outside of the home. Parents have open, honest relationships with staff and are encouraged to spend time at the play scheme joining in activities and sharing skills. The children relish their time in the setting and have a positive attitude to learning. They are happy, settled and purposefully engaged throughout the session. They take part in activities and events such as dance, drama, arts and crafts, games, computer/IT, trips out, table tennis, pool, story telling and preparations for the carnival. Visitors are also invited to entertain and educate the children in music, first aid, improving behaviour and self-esteem, role play, talent show, poetry, different cultures, fitness and martial arts.

The children are enthusiastic and self-assured in this welcoming environment and all take part in preparations for the carnival. This years theme was exotic birds and the children excitedly showed photograph's of these. The staff are very enthusiastic which means that the children show an interest in what they are doing.

The children develop confidence and a strong sense of self through positive interaction with the adults. They are very well behaved and have respect for one another. The staff participate in all the activities and guide the children. For example, a Caribbean band visited the play scheme and put a show on for the children, they then spent time with them singing, playing instruments and talking about the Caribbean. The children are now singing traditional songs that they have learnt from the band.

The staff regularly evaluate the activities they provide to ensure that the children take part in activities that offer a suitable challenge and promote their well-being and development. For example at the end of each session the staff spend time

completing evaluation forms, they comment on the activities, how successful they were, any issues arising from children's behaviour, the venue, equipment, safety and how they can address, improve and monitor these. Scrabble was particularly successful this play scheme, the children took part everyday and dictionaries were available for the children to refer to.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The children are developing high levels of self-esteem as they are valued and respected as individuals. The children benefit from the positive partnership staff have developed with the parents. The registered person is well known in the community and is very well respected, he has expectations of staff, children and parents, which he makes clear to them all. A welcoming, fun, relaxed and happy atmosphere is created by all. The children are settled and play well together.

The children behave well, take turns and respond positively to the routine and boundaries in place. This helps children develop a positive attitude and show concern for others. The children take part in compiling the ground rules and a colour coded card system is used. Parents are informed about the rules and the card system. Staff explain to the children the consequences of their actions and high standards of behaviour and good manners are expected. This means that children work harmoniously together and take responsibility for their own behaviour.

The children are treated with equal concern, this helps them feel valued. Equal opportunities and anti discriminatory practice is promoted for all children. Everyone is welcome at the centre as organisers are keen to bridge the race relations gap. The celebrations and activities are based around the West Indian/African/Caribbean culture as this is the very ethos of the of the centre. Children are encouraged to discuss their home lives, this helps them feel accepted and part of the community, children are valued, seen as individuals, encouraged to have opinions and views. They are confident in large groups to speak out and those less confident are acknowledged and included with support from staff or peers.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children are settled in this well organised environment which helps promote their independence. This means that children are happy to take part in the organisation of activities and daily tasks. The staff work well together to promote the children's enjoyment and achievement, they dedicate their time to the children and plan activities in advance which are approved by the registered person prior to the scheme operating. The registered person has high expectations of the staff group and regularly checks on them.

The registered person uses effective recruitment procedures which ensure that staff are appropriately vetted and qualified, for example, the coordinator has been

involved in the play scheme since it was registered in 1986 and has an NVQ level 3 qualification in childcare and education, staff are from the local community and most are of West Indian origin. Staff ensure children are protected from those not vetted and do supervise new staff and visitors at all times.

Policies and procedures are understood and implemented by staff. The welfare, care and learning of the children is promoted, records, including information from parents regarding the individual needs of the children are maintained. Staff, child ratio's are maintained. A four week plan of activities is organised by staff prior to the play scheme. Overall the needs of the children are being met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to improve the organisation of all documentation, policies and procedures. They are now readily available to parents, staff and inspectors on request. Policies and procedures have been implemented to minimise risks to children. Staff now carry out risk assessments on all areas used by the children and are aware of the procedures to follow in the event that a child may be lost or uncollected. This means that the efficient and safe management of the provision is supported and the welfare, care and learning of the children, are maintained.

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.
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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 attending all day are offered a midday meal or packed lunch which can be provided by parents. Parents are advised of healthy options and what can be stored safely.
- Ensure that provision is made readily available (space or partitioned area) for children who wish to relax, equipped with appropriate furniture.

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