

Childsplay Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	110047
Inspection date	17/11/2008
Inspector	Gill Bosschaert
Setting address	Childs Play, St. Marys Road, Hayling Island, Hampshire, PO11 9DD
Telephone number	023 92462608
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).

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

Childsplay Nursery is a privately owned provision, which has been registered since 1991. The nursery serves families living in Hayling Island and the surrounding areas. It is situated in purpose built premises in the grounds of Mengham School and has an enclosed area for outside play. A maximum of 50 children may attend the nursery at any one time. It is open Monday to Friday 08.00 - 18.00, all year round. Children can attend on a full-time or part-time basis and the nursery receives government funding for nursery education. There are currently 78 children on roll, including 32 children who are in receipt of funding. The nursery offers appropriate support to children who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities and English as an additional language. There are 15 members of staff who work directly with children more than 50% of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications. The setting receives support from the local authority. This provider is on the Early Years Register, compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Childsplay Nursery provides outstanding provision for children in its care maintaining the standards achieved in the last inspection. The staff ably led by the manager and the deputy manager have ensured that high standards are sought and achieved.

The Nursery is safe and secure and children are well cared for. Arrangements to welcome new parents and children are very good. It is delightful to see young children cheerfully saying goodbye to their parents or carers at the start of a session so early in the year. This underlines the professionalism of the staff and their understanding of the need for security and love for children of this age. They make really good progress in how to behave, learning the routines and managing themselves in a range of situations and activities throughout the session. The younger children mostly play and take part in activities on their own or alongside another child. Occasionally, they play together and are encouraged to share toys and equipment sensibly. The older children like to choose activities and resources for themselves both indoors and outdoors. They behave extremely well and make excellent progress. From average to low starting points all of them improve well to reach expected levels when they enter Reception. Provision for children's learning and development is outstanding. The staff are well qualified and have a wide range of skills and experience. This enables them to focus well on children's developing needs. The setting is very effectively organised to promote progress across all of the areas of learning in both sections, the younger children and the pre-school children. There is a strong focus on children's personal and social development and language skills during the Autumn term.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the high quality early years provision the registered person should consider:

- to maintain the outstanding provision and outcome for all the children

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Leadership and management are outstanding. The school's self-evaluation which is based on the local authority's guidance, is accurate, leading to very effective management. The Nursery is reflective about its own achievements always looking for ways to improve further. The Nursery manager and her deputy have helped the staff stay focused and motivated, which has maintained the outstanding standard seen at the last inspection. It was evident during this inspection that all staff are willing and competent showing great warmth, care and attention to detail for the needs of the children, putting the child at the heart of all they do. Frequent team meetings ensure each child makes progress and this is monitored accurately to provide future planning opportunities. Assessments are focused and graded according to age expectations as well as some ad hoc assessments when children achieve unexpectedly. Meticulous observation and documentation aid this process. The manager provides clear policies and procedures that are updated annually in the Autumn. The manager intends involving parents in this process in future that will build on the already excellent relationships between staff and parents. Safeguarding procedures are all in place. Criminal records bureau checks are undertaken with each new member of staff. All legal requirements are met.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Childsplay Nursery provides a warm, caring, exciting and stimulating environment that enables learning to take place. Areas have been carefully thought through to provide the maximum play and learning opportunities. Children enjoy being at the Nursery and settle very quickly on arrival even the youngest of the children gave smiles to the staff on arrival. Babies and toddlers feel secure as staff work closely with parents to ensure routines from home are incorporated into the daily Nursery routines and are then familiar to them. Comforters are brought from home for added security. Free flow between the inside and outside learning areas encourages independence and enjoyment moving the children forward in their learning and development. Most of the older children are able to put on their own coat to go outside. Opportunities are given outside to work on a bigger scale and for extended periods as well as offering sensory experiences through contact with the weather and the natural world. Staff support learning very well, often by playing alongside children knowing when to extend vocabulary and when to stand back and let children persevere. A selection of good quality picture books both fiction and non-fiction are available and children are encouraged to choose freely as well as share with an adult. Books are handled correctly, pictures the right way up and turning the pages with care encouraged. Opportunities are available to practise emergent writing skills and develop ordinal number. Story and rhyme, as well as music and song are used very effectively to encourage language development. Small world and role play help children to engage with their peers effectively. Soup was offered from the autumn menu with the explanation 'my daddy makes soup when it is cold'. Children listen well to staff and to each other.

The Nursery links very well with Mengham Infant School and children sit comfortably in the dining hall with the older children to eat their dinner showing they are secure away from the Nursery building, this will make transition to the school easy in the Summer.

Staff are skilled at offering encouragement, clarifying ideas and asking open-ended questions. They allow children to move equipment around, indoors and outdoors, to extend their own ideas for play encouraging independence. A boy and a girl who were using the large blocks and single planks to make a house took turns to walk up and down the plank displaying their social skills. Children on tricycles were racing and saying 'I'm first' and 'I'm second'. Inside a child making dinosaur eggs to fit into an egg carton was asked which was the biggest egg then which was the smallest, developing mathematical vocabulary as well as logical thinking. Babies playing with wet sand were able to make hand-prints very effectively once the texture had been explored.

Staff are familiar with each child's individual background and needs through the key person, which also enables parents to have a familiar point of contact. They have a positive attitude towards inclusion to ensure every child is able to fully participate within the nursery to help them achieve their full potential. Children are helped to acquire a positive attitude towards people who are different from them and staff are supportive in working with parents to help children develop an understanding of their own cultures and those of others. Excellent systems are in place to ensure children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are well supported and included throughout the provision, although there are none currently on role. Behaviour is exceptionally good. Children are familiar with the rules and routines of the setting and respond well to the staff's consistent approach to expected behaviour, which helps to develop their understanding of right from wrong. Staff are vigilant and are quick to divert attention or offer alternative toys that prevent squabbles and encourage excellent social skills. Healthy eating is encouraged and children bring a fruit snack for mid morning. Lunches are carefully monitored to promote healthy eating. Water and milk is provided at this time although water is also available throughout the day. Children are encouraged to wash their hands after toileting and before eating food. Staff follow strict hygiene procedures when handling food or changing children. Staff plan well together and assess children's growing skills and achievements effectively through observation and direct assessment activities and excellent record keeping. The setting is outstandingly well led and managed. The Nursery manager and her deputy have ensured with the willing cooperation of the staff that the outstanding quality of provision in the last inspection has been maintained and new ideas from the Early Years Foundation Stage have been implemented and are being embedded well. Staff morale is high with good camaraderie, these factors have to a large degree enabled the staff's ability to develop fully the new Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. Good outdoor learning provision has promoted greater independence and choice in children's learning.

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

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	1
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	1

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	1
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	1
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	1
How well are children safeguarded?	1

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	1
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	1
How well are children helped to stay safe?	1
How well are children helped to be healthy?	1
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	1
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	1
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	1

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

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.