

Whitefriars Centre Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	508629
Inspection date	11/08/2009
Inspector	Pauline Nazarkardeh
Setting address	Teachers Centre, Tudor Road, Harrow, HA3 5PQ
Telephone number	0208 424 1811
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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 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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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

Whitefriars Centre Play scheme opened in 1998. It operates from the premises of Harrow Teachers Centre in a residential area of Harrow Weald in the London borough of Harrow. It has sole use of the building which consists of a gym, outside play area and a large hall which is an annex to the Harrow Teachers Centre main building.

This play scheme is one of five holiday play schemes operated by the Youth Services of London Borough of Harrow. All the play schemes are managed by one co-ordinator.

The play scheme is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 50 children under eight years may attend at any one time, all of which may be in the early years age group. The setting operates five days per week during school holidays. Sessions are from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm. There are currently 36 children attending, four of whom are in the early years group.

The setting employs seven members of staff, in addition some children have one to one workers. The majority of staff are university or college students who hold appropriate qualifications. All staff are experienced in working with children.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children are happy and settled at the play scheme where their individual needs are met. Staff are friendly and kind to the children and the environment is stimulating and safe. Children's welfare is fostered well and they are making good progress in their learning and development; this is as a result of the staff's enthusiasm for providing quality childcare. The working partnership between parents and carers ensures that staff have a good knowledge of the children and their families.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop assessment and planning skills to identify each child's starting points, ensuring that they are clearly linked to planning.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- inform Ofsted of any change to the person who is managing the provision (Suitable of adults)

28/09/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Partnership with parents is good, they come into the building and say how happy they are with the provision and that their children enjoy coming. The certificate of registration is displayed for parents to see. Working policies and procedures are provided in the play scheme booklet and the parents' notice board contains information about activities and key persons. Appropriate children's records are maintained and relevant levels of consent are in place to ensure children's safety and welfare is promoted.

Staff have a developing knowledge of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, in house training has been undertaken and planning reflects children's interests. Systems to observe and assess children's development are in place, however some children's assessment information lacks detail.

Staff are well deployed which ensures the children are supervised and supported in activities. Staff have a clear knowledge of safeguarding issues and they know how to protect children if there are concerns that a child is being harmed and the reporting procedures to follow. Generally the recruitment procedure is effective and all staff have undertaken the necessary checks before they commence employment. However changes to the manager of the setting have not been notified to Ofsted.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in their environment and the staff are friendly and well known to them. This enables the children to approach staff confidently to express their needs and wishes. Physical activities are well promoted as children have access to a large outdoor area, here they are able to play tennis, para shoot games and run around. Outdoors children also enjoy creating their own racing track and with the support of staff they operate the remote control car over ramps and along the route they created.

Children play games in small groups and they particularly enjoy following the clapping rhythm game. All activities are on site and children have regular visitors and entertainers which include animal displays, Taek-won-do lessons and art workshops.

Children have access to a well organised and safe environment. They are developing their own awareness of safety due to staff reminders about safe play. Reward points are offered to children who play safely and group times are used to remind children of risks. Parents provide packed lunches which are stored in a cupboard, parents are advised as to what to include for a healthy lunch.

Inclusive practice means the children and the parents know what is happening each day leading to a feeling of security, for example, notices help children and parents to be aware of the activities on offer. Children are encouraged to be considerate to others, and any unacceptable behaviour is managed effectively by

staff using age appropriate and positive methods. Their behaviour is good as they are busily engaged in meaningful activities. Staff give clear messages to children about what is expected of them, and children identify and write up their own rules for the play scheme.

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?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	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

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	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?	2

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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