

North Devon Leisure Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number

EY332362

Inspection date

07/01/2010

Inspector

Judith Harris

Setting address

North Devon Leisure Centre, Seven Brethren Bank,
Sticklepath, BARNSTAPLE, Devon, EX31 2AP

Telephone number

01271 373361

Email

northdevon@arkwood-leisure.co.uk

Type of setting

Childcare on non-domestic premises

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It rates council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 08456 404040, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

Royal Exchange Buildings
St Ann's Square
Manchester
M2 7LA

T: 08456 404040
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2009

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).

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.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

Description of the setting

North Devon Leisure Centre Crèche and out of school club was registered in 2006 under its current registration and is now managed by Parkwood Leisure Limited. The crèche operates from its own room in the leisure centre. A maximum of 48 children aged from under eight years may attend the setting, of these 24 may be in the early years age range at any one time. The crèche is open Monday to Friday, from 9.30am to 12.30pm throughout the year. The holiday club operates during the school holidays Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 6.00pm. The number of children on roll varies as the crèche provides drop in places which do not have to be booked in advance. There are six members of staff, including the crèche-leader. All staff hold appropriate early years qualifications, the crèche-leader has an NVQ level 3 and all other staff have NVQ level 2 and are studying for level 3.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The crèche-leader and staff have good systems to allow them to gain an understanding of the individual learning needs of each child that attends. Children's welfare needs are well supported and the crèche room is a safe and secure environment. The crèche-leader has developed good partnerships with parents which support the staff team in effectively meeting children's learning and welfare needs. The crèche-leader is clearly developing a vision to drive the continuous improvement and development of the crèche in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop children's individual learning and development records to provide regular examples of progress from starting points
- further promote respect and positive attitudes to diversity by encouraging children to talk with each other about similarities and differences, using props and stories about children who are both like them and different from them.
- develop systems to provide parents with more formal information of children's learning and development

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The crèche have good systems for effectively supporting and maintaining children's safety and security. All staff have suitable checks and the Leisure Centre management have appropriate systems in place for checking and vetting all staff that are employed in both the crèche and the leisure centre. The provision have clear safeguarding children procedures that are in line with Local Safeguarding

Children Board guidelines. A range of risk assessments for all areas including the outdoor area are carried out and effectively support children's safety. The emergency evacuation plans are in place and regularly practiced with the children. The staff have good systems to ensure that arrival and collection of all children is closely monitored and recorded. A password system is in place to support staff in ensuring children's security at collection times.

The provisions well organised systems ensure that all children attending are registered and that all required records are kept and well maintained. The staff team are successfully sharing any accident and medication records and all other relevant records with parents. The crèche-leader has developed positive policies and procedures for the inclusion of all children in the setting and they work with the children to ensure that they are provided with appropriate activities and experiences. The crèche-leader makes good use of all the resources including the effective deployment of the staff team.

The crèche-leader has developed effective systems for on-going monitoring and evaluation of the provision which ensures that staff take an active part in the self-evaluation process. These systems support the provision to identify their strengths and weaknesses and to develop a vision for the continuous improvement. The staff's professional development is supported by systems that ensure that ongoing training is available. The crèche-leader is building good positive relationships with parents and parents are provided with questionnaires to ensure they are able to comment on their experience of the provision. All questionnaire replies show that parents highly value the staff's approach to the care and support of their children in the crèche. However, there are currently no formal systems for giving feedback to parents about children's progress.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children are confident and happy in the crèche environment, they have good supportive relationships with the staff which help them to feel secure and to settle easily in this comfortable, relaxed atmosphere. Children's individual learning and development is well supported by the knowledge that staff develop of each child who attends. The crèche staff are developing a range of observations and assessments to help them build a clear picture of children's individual needs and to ensure that activities are provided in line with children's interests. The key worker system allows staff to develop and plan activities to meet children's individual needs and ensure children are supported to choose which activities they want to take part in. The crèche staff team are enthusiastically embracing the Early Years Foundation Stage and developing scrap books to record children's individual learning journeys.

Children play in the large crèche room where they have direct and safe access to a range of toys, equipment and resources that are suitable for their ages. Children under two years have their own area that allows very young children to move and play safely only accessing age appropriate toys and equipment. Children have access to activities that support their development in all areas of learning. They

have a large space in the middle of the room where they can ride-on and push along toys in a safe manner and an area with a small climbing frame. Children are provided with opportunities to use the computer, to complete puzzles and build with bricks. The children are actively using their imagination developing a role play game on the ride on toys. At the dinosaur game, children are delighted as they explore and experiment with the different dinosaurs making noises and inventing a small world game. The staff observe the children's play and use their interaction to encourage the children using open questions and praise to develop children's language and thought processes. The children have snack time in a group, and they clearly enjoy this time together where they are successfully developing good social skills. After snack children choose a story to read with the adult, this is the only adult led activity, all other time in the session is free play allowing children time and space to explore, experiment and invent through their play. The children are beginning to develop an understanding of diversity through a small range of activities. Children have access to an outdoor area and go for walks around the grounds of the leisure centre.

Children are carefully supported to learn good basic hygiene skills through the use of good hygiene routines. Children have drinks in their own cups and parents provide snacks that the staff ensure are healthy and well balanced. Information is taken about any special dietary restrictions to ensure children's individual dietary needs are met. Children are well behaved and the staff make successful use of distraction to ensure that children are able to begin to develop skills for self-control.

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

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
--	---

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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
--	-----