

Cawthorne Children's Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	302828
Inspection date	10/08/2009
Inspector	Hilary Mary Mckenning
Setting address	Taylor Hill, Cawthorne, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S75 4HB
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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).

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

Cawthorne Children's Centre has been registered since 1992. It operates in a separate building within the grounds of Cawthorne Church of England School in Cawthorne near Barnsley. It is a voluntary organisation, which is managed by a management committee of parents. The centre serves the local community and surrounding areas. Children have access to an outdoor play area.

The centre is open Monday to Friday, 07.30 to 18.00 throughout the year. The centre also offers before and after school care and a holiday club.

The centre is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. They may care for a maximum of 62 children at any one time. There are currently 82 children attending a variety of sessions, and 40 of these are in the early years age group. The centre supports children with disabilities and where English is an additional language. There are 23 members of staff including ancillary staff. All staff working directly with the children hold a relevant childcare qualification. The centre receives support from the local authority, school and the committee.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The staff group are developing an appropriate knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and children's are making satisfactory progress. General information is shared with other providers. However, this is insufficient to ensure the continuity of children's learning and development. The partnership with parents is positive and contributes to ensuring that children's needs are met appropriately. Most of the required documentation is in place. However, the statement available to parents regarding complaints does not meet the requirements. This is a breach in the requirements. Opportunities for children to explore differences and learn about themselves are appropriately promoted.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop the fire logbook to include details of any problems encountered and how they were resolved
- review policies to ensure they are in line with current requirements, in particular the complaints policy
- plan and provide experiences appropriate to each child's stage of development and meet the individual needs of all children
- ensure the daily records of children's attendance are accurately maintained.

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

- make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint (Safeguarding and welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)

28/08/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

There are positive partnerships with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. The centre has established positive links with other providers within the Early Years Foundation Stage. However, this does not extend to sharing information regarding children's achievements to ensure the continuity of each child's learning and development. Although the centre staff have approached local schools regarding sharing this information, this has not been reciprocated.

There are appropriate systems in place to record accidents and to administer medication. Most permission forms are available although some do not contain the necessary details. Policies and procedures are in place to ensure that parents are suitably informed of the service offered. However, the complaints statement does not outline the timescales involved and as a result, parents are not informed of the correct complaints procedure. There are verbal exchanges with parents about what activities children have taken part in and they are asked for basic information at the initial visit. Daily information is shared with parents about their day. The management team have an appropriate awareness of the safeguarding procedures and policies and procedures are in place to ensure children are safe from harm. There is a registration system in place to record children's and staff's attendance. However, children's hours of attendance are not consistently maintained.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and staff enjoy good relationships within the secure environment and they are generally well behaved. Older children are involved in the planning of activities at the after school and holiday club. They are also included when putting together the rules of the club so they are able to take some responsibility for their own actions and develop an understanding of right from wrong. Inclusive practice is adequately promoted so that all children's individual care needs are met and their different cultural backgrounds are recognised.

Staff are appropriately qualified and have a satisfactory understanding of how children learn. Children's observations and assessments reflect children's achievements and identify the next steps of learning. However, these are not clearly identified within the planning. As a result, children's individual learning and development, and monitoring their progress within the Early Years Foundation Stage is not fully reflected in the planning.

Children are introduced to safety and how to keep themselves safe, for example, all children are involved in regular fire drills although details in the fire log do not

identify any hazards encountered and how they were resolved. Appropriate risk assessments are in place and staff complete a daily health and safety check list. Children have daily access to physical exercise and older children are involved in healthy eating discussions at snack times, prompting healthy lifestyles. Children have access to outdoor facilities, although there is no formal planning for outdoor play. The centre has a positive approach to safety, and allows the children to understand how to keep themselves safe. Children organise games of tennis and skipping. Older children work well together as they successfully fly a kite. Younger children eagerly join in a treasure hunt, excitedly looking for green 'treasures'. They confidently count to above 50 before starting on their hunt. Young babies enjoy a variety of soft toys and resources to promote their development. For example, staff place interesting toys appropriately encouraging them to reach, stretch and enjoy a selection of musical toys.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	3
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	3
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	3

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:

Not Met (with actions)

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (CR7) 28/08/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (CR7) 28/08/2009