

# Rascals Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number** EY252616  
**Inspection date** 10/08/2009  
**Inspector** Clementina Ogunsanwo

**Setting address** Eldon Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 1UE

**Telephone number** 01323 509859

**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 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

Rascals Playscheme is one of three schemes run by Eastbourne Borough Council. It opened in 2005 and operates from rooms within Cavendish Sports Centre in Eastbourne. It is situated in a mainly residential area on the outskirts of the town. A maximum of 50 children may attend the playscheme at any one time. The scheme is open weekdays from 08:45 to 16:30 during school holidays. All children share access to the enclosed outdoor areas. There are currently 90 children on roll, 15 of who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage age range. Children come from the local area. The playscheme supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities and those speaking English as an additional language, although there are currently no children within these categories on roll. The playscheme employs 12 members of staff; of these seven hold appropriate childcare qualifications with five unqualified members of staff. There are six members of staff who hold a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) at level 3 and one member of staff holds a NVQ at level 2. The playscheme is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The playscheme has limited disabled access.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of Rascals Playscheme is a satisfactory. Children play and have fun within a caring and inclusive environment. Staff supervise and support the children well throughout the session, ensuring their safety and well-being at all times. Parents are confident that their children are well looked after. The systems for assessing the rate of progress children make towards achievement of the early learning goals are not fully in place. The playscheme is well resourced and leadership has a good capacity to improve further.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure that the progress that children in the Early Years Foundation Stage make towards achievement of the early learning goals is regularly assessed
- ensure that activities provided cover all the six areas of learning

## The leadership and management of the early years provision

Leadership and management are satisfactory. Risk assessments are carried out on a regular basis to protect the children. All relevant policies and procedures are in place. Self-evaluation is satisfactory. Staff have access to training from the local Early Years Advisory Service and works closely with other local playschemes to share ideas on improving the quality of provision. All children are included in the scheduled activities and use of equipment. There are well established routines which facilitate children's active engagement with each other. The playscheme has

effectively addressed the issues identified at the previous inspection, by revising the registration forms to include parent's details which facilitate easy access to parents contact details in the event of emergencies. Staff supervise and support the children well at all times and promptly reassure and support, which promotes their safety and well-being. Staff makes good use of the spacious outdoor environment, playing fields and the range of indoor space, which includes a gym to support children's learning. However, the lack of a ramp restricts access to children who may require disabled access, although currently there are no children with learning difficulties and disabilities, or children learning English as an additional language on roll. Purposeful events, such as food tasting and flag making undertaken during 'Around the World Week', help children to develop knowledge of cultures other than their own.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

The playscheme is popular with the children. They enjoy and actively participate in the full range of activities provided. They develop an increasing awareness of number and effective communication skills through number games and purposeful discussions. However, the range of activities provided does not fully cover all the six areas of learning. For example, there are insufficient activities to develop children's knowledge and understanding of the world. Children confidently approach staff and engage in lively conversations to discuss their completed work, particularly after completion of their range of creative work on land and sea features and coloured wooden key-rings. They develop positive relationships with the staff that care well for them. One child commented, 'Staff are nice' and another added, 'I feel safe'. Staff provide an interesting range of activities and games which include opportunities for children to positively contribute to the smooth running of the playscheme by providing ideas on games and activities they would like to undertake. They regularly take part in a wide range of construction activities which allow them to extend the use of their imagination. For example, they use several bricks to build a 'car port'. Staff's active involvement in scheduled activities and games, such as outdoor organised races and indoor football games, make learning fun. Staff have established positive relationships with the children which provide a happy environment. Subsequently, children are relaxed and have settled well to the daily routine despite the fact that some of the children have recently started attending the club. The activities allow many opportunities for the children to actively interact with each other which help children to cooperate well with each other as demonstrated during an exciting chess game session. As a result, behaviour is good. Children have formed purposeful friendships and value each other's company. Staff supervise and support children well during activities and consistently remind them of the need to adhere to safe play rules, keeping them safe and secure. Well established systems for recording children's arrival and departure times help staff to keep track of their movement. Children enjoy a range of healthy snacks which include a selection of fruit, toast and juices, which promote their health and encourage their adoption of a healthy lifestyle. Snack times are well organised and children are actively involved in clearing up and tidying away afterwards. Physical development is good and children undertake energetic ball games.

## 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

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	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?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
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?	3

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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