

Jo and Stu Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY398599
Inspection date 15/03/2010
Inspector Linda Dawe

Setting address St. Marychurch C E Primary & Nursery School, Hartop
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Telephone number 01803 328913
Email
Type of setting Childcare on non-domestic premises

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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.

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Description of the setting

Jo and Stu Childcare was registered in August 2009. It is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the childcare register to provide after school care for up to 20 children from the age of three years to under the age of eight years, all of whom may be in the early years age range. The provision is open from 3.15 pm to 6.00 pm Monday to Friday term times only. There are currently 16 children on their register, two of whom are in the early years age range.

The provision operates in the community room and associated facilities at St. Marychurch C E Primary & Nursery School, Torquay, mainly for children who attend the primary school but can accommodate other children as required. The setting is managed by a husband and wife as a private partnership, they are also registered childminders. They both have level three childcare qualifications and relevant playwork qualifications. In addition there is a list of people available to cover staff absences.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children make sound progress in their learning and development. They appear happy, settled and engaged in a range of activities which they can choose from. Children feel safe within the setting although the processes for ensuring that people who are available to cover staff absences are suitable are not sufficiently robust. The setting has strong links with the school in which it is sited, which benefits the children. The owners of the provision have informal systems in place to review their practice. They demonstrate a satisfactory capacity to improve.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure that persons whose suitability has not been checked are not given unsupervised access to children (Suitability of adults) 15/03/2010
- keep records of the information used to assess suitability to demonstrate that checks have been done. Ensure that such records include the unique reference numbers of CRB disclosures including the date on which they were obtained (Suitability of adults) 02/04/2010

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

- review record keeping; in particular review the emergency medical consent

form to ensure that it is appropriately worded and review how incidents are recorded

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children play in a safe learning environment where they have free choice of a range of activities to support their learning. The provision is owned and run by a husband and wife team who do not generally employ any additional staff. Suitability checks on any additional persons who could be used are carried out but procedures are not stringently adhered to, resulting in a breach in legal requirements. In general policies and procedures are satisfactory and work well in practice, for example, risk assessments. However, some record keeping lacks sufficient detail.

Staff know the children well and as a result are able to meet their individual needs. Children are provided with activities that give them an understanding of equality and diversity, for example, children have recently made a wall display around the recent Chinese New Year. Regular newsletters and an informative notice board provides parents with information about the activities happening within the provision. Staff also have good links with the school and as a result, there is a regular exchange of appropriate information regarding the children in their care.

The owners review their practice regularly and attend appropriate training to improve their skills and knowledge. For example, they have both recently undertaken playwork training and are putting their newly acquired skills in place. As a result, sessions have become more child-led with children making more choices about the things they would like to do. The owners are also proactive in seeking funding to improve the range of resources available to the children they care for.

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

Children are happy, settle quickly and are keen to be involved in the activities on offer to them. Activities tend to be child-led with a good range of resources available for children to choose from. Children play well together and friendship groups are apparent, older children are happy to help their young friends, for example, when making dens together. Staff are very aware that the provision runs at the end of a busy school day for the children and therefore strive to meet all the children's individual needs with regards to the activities on offer.

Children enjoy playing outside once the doors are opened to enable them to do so. Children's overall health benefits from the fresh air and exercise that they get whilst playing on the school playing field. Children are taught to think about their health needs by being prompted to put on their coats in cold weather. Healthy snacks are available although children often choose the less healthy option, for example, spreading their crumpets with chocolate spread. Drinks are freely

available throughout the session. All children are aware that they need to wash their hands before eating and the reason why.

Activities are provided to teach the children to think about risk and their own safety. For example, competent children are allowed to use the toaster under close supervision and following recent Forest School training the staff are planning to have a fire pit at a session for the children to use. These type of activities when risk assessed to be age appropriate provide valuable learning experiences for children.

Children are very positive about their time in the provision. They are confident and clearly enjoy the company of the staff who are on hand to play games or football with them if asked to.

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?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	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:

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 for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 15/03/2010