



St Georges Youth & Community Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY236582
Inspection date	21 June 2005
Inspector	Kay Margaret Armstrong
Setting Address	St Georges Youth & Community Centre, Livesey Street, Manchester, Lancashire, M4 5HF
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Registered person	Manchester & Salford Family Services Unit
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Family Service Unit at St George's Youth and Community Centre is registered to provide Out of School for 24 children and Holiday Care for 46 children at the Community Centre which is situated on Livsey Street, Collyhurst, Manchester. Currently there are 38 children on roll who attend for a variety of sessions each week.

The group is open Monday to Friday, term time, from 15:15 to 18:00 for children who attend St Patrick's Roman Catholic Primary School and Abbott Community Primary School.

Holiday care is provided for local children during all half term holidays, two weeks at Easter and for five weeks during the main summer holidays and the facility is closed for all Bank Holidays

The group has use of the whole of the building and the facilities include a main hall, a quiet room, kitchen, toilets and an outdoor play area.

A total of five staff care for the children, all hold qualifications in early years or play work and staff gain support from Sure Start Central. The group has strong links with the Family Service Unit and New East Manchester Child Care Strategies.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

A range of activities are provided for children to promote their physical wellbeing. For example children are encouraged to be active and take part in sport like games such as tennis and football, developing strength, physical skills and control of their bodies as they have fun.

Hygiene procedures are implemented to ensure children are cared for in a generally warm, clean, environment. Daily routines help to promote children's understanding of good hygiene practices, fostering their independence and self help skills. For example children confidently take themselves to the bathroom and clearly understand the need to wash their hands before they eat and after using the toilet. However children's health is compromised by the poor hygiene standards in the kitchen area.

Children's dietary requirements are discussed with parents and respected at all times. Children confidently help themselves to the drinks available, which include water, as they recognise and respond to their bodies needs. Children learn about healthy eating habits as they are introduced healthy foods, such as salads and fruit at snack time, helping them to understand how a nutritious diet will promote their growth and development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in bright, welcoming environment. Detailed risk assessment are undertaken daily and potential hazards are identified and minimised, which means that children are able to play safely and independently. The staff are vigilant, offering good supervision as children play. Emergency evacuation procedures are practiced regularly ensuring children know and understand what to do in the event of a fire. Staff take time to explain boundaries and children are aware of how to cross the road using the pelican crossing. As a result the children are becoming confident in keep themselves safe.

There is wide range of resources available to meet the needs of the children. Toys

are clean, well maintained and comply with safety standards. Resources are organised and easily accessible to the children which enhances their learning and promotes choice and independence.

All the required documentation is in place to ensure children's welfare is safeguarded and promoted. Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child procedures in line with the local Area Child Protection Committee.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

The staff have a positive relationship with the children, they spend time playing and talking to them. They respond positively to their questions and listen attentively to what they are saying, as a result the children are confident, happy and secure.

Children are busy and occupied throughout the session, they make choices in their play becoming independent and confident. Some children choose to sit quietly for a short while watching a television programme or reading a book. Others really enjoy outdoor activities such as football and tennis. Children share jokes with the staff team and freely express themselves with creative materials. Small groups of children play imaginatively with dressing up clothes and domestic type resources. The children play together well, in a co-operatively manner as a result they are making friends and developing skills in negotiations.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children learn about their wider community through varied activities, celebrating different festivals and the range of resources which reflect positive images of our diverse society. Children with additional needs are cared for in an inclusive, supportive environment, helping all children to become aware of differences and develop a positive attitude to others.

Good behaviour, children's efforts and achievements are acknowledged, recognised, celebrated and praised appropriately. Creative work is valued and displayed promoting children's confidence and self esteem. The children have been involved in drawing up ground rules, such as sharing, not bullying and taking turns. As a result, the children own and understand the rules, they behave well, show concern for each other, share the resources willingly and are beginning to be responsible for their own actions.

Children benefit from the positive relationships between the parents and staff. Staff take time to talk to parents about the children's welfare and individual needs.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

All necessary records and documentation are in place and of a good standard. The parents are provided with written information which includes policies and procedures that outline the basis of the service offered and promotes children's welfare by contributing to the continuity of care for the children.

The staff work well together as a team. They prepare for the session before children arrive, ensuring children have access to sufficient organised play materials, which are appropriate to children's ages and stages of development promote children's learning and enjoyment. As a result children have choices in the activities they engage in fostering their independence.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the group agreed develop a procedure for lost or uncollected children, to obtain written signed consent to before administering medication, to develop the range of books available to the children and to increase children's independence at snack time.

All these issues have now been addressed. The children independently help themselves to food and drinks at snack time. There is now a good selection of books for children to freely select from. The policy for lost or uncollected children as been included in parent's booklet and the means to seek parent's written consent to administer medication is in place.

These improvements ensure that all aspects of documentation, which contribute to the welfare of children, are in place and children's self help skills and independence are promoted as they are able to make choices.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.
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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should

take account of the following recommendation(s):

- improve hygiene procedures, in food preparation and storage areas, to prevent the risk of cross contamination.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk