



Bromley Mytime at Crofton Infants

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY289575
Inspection date	03 May 2006
Inspector	Carol Ann Jeffrey

Setting Address	Crofton Junior School, Towncourt Lane, Orpington, Kent, BR5 1EL
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Telephone number

E-mail

Registered person	Bromley Mytime
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Type of inspection	Childcare
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Type of care	Out of School care
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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.
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WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Bromley Mytime at Crofton Infants is registered to Bromley Mytime, a charitable leisure trust. The group operates from Crofton Infants School, Orpington, which is in the London Borough of Bromley. The group has the use of the dining room and sports hall for indoor physical activities. There are toilet facilities identified for use by the group and an enclosed playground for outside play. The out of school group serves children attending the primary school and currently there are 45 children in total on the register.

The group operates from 15:20 to 18:00 during school term time and children

attending Mytime Out of School group are aged between four and eleven years.

Four members of staff work with the children attending the Mytime group, of whom three have early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the management committee of Bromley Mytime who interview, appoint and deliver training programmes to all staff

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is supported well by staff who follow established hygiene guidelines and encourage children to develop appropriate hand-washing routines. Although the school premises are generally clean and well maintained, the standard of cleanliness, particularly relating to the floor and skirting boards in the after school room, is poor.

Children have positive attitudes to physical exercise. They delight in parachute games and also develop strength, spatial awareness and co-ordination whilst kicking and throwing balls and during organised team activities in the school playground or sports hall.

Tea times are relaxed, social occasions. Children display awareness of the value of good nutrition as they make choices from a variety of protein, salad and vegetable options. Children are actively encouraged to be involved with the menu planning and this contributes significantly to children's understanding of a healthy lifestyle.

Children have good access to drinking water throughout the session. Jugs of water and disposable cups are freely available, enabling them to help themselves independently, thus allowing children to consider and respond to their personal health needs.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children play and relax in a safe and secure environment. The staff ensure that the premises are safe and suitable for the children's use before the children arrive, for example, they check that the toilets are clean and that the equipment provided is safe. There are very effective procedures in place for the safe arrival and departure of the children. Good staff deployment and sensible supervision ensures the safety of children at all times. All of the members of staff are suitably vetted and visitors are never unsupervised with the children or take children to the toilet.

The children are developing an awareness of keeping themselves safe and know the rules of the group. The staff extend the children's knowledge and understanding of safety during topics and themes. Staff help the children to understand how to keep themselves safe, for example, they explain the importance of applying sun cream and wearing sun hats when playing outside in hot weather.

The children benefit from a good range of safety measures. The staff are trained to undertake full risk assessments of the premises, equipment and resources, which they regularly review to ensure the safety of the children at all times. Staff practice the emergency evacuation procedures with the children on a regular basis. This helps children to become familiar with the routine so they learn how to leave the premises quickly and safely.

The staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and know what action to take if they have concerns about a child in their care. Comprehensive child protection policies and procedures are in place and are shared with the parents.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the end of the school day. They arrive eagerly and confidently, keen to meet up with their friends and participate enthusiastically in the activities. They have access to a good range of indoor and outdoor resources and play freely and creatively with games and activities. A quiet area is available so that children can attend to homework if they wish.

The children remain on site throughout the session, using the hardcore playground or grassed area for outside games and activities during the after school session. Children particularly enjoy ball games and play enthusiastically, with squeals of delight and lots of laughter. Activities such as these aid children's co-ordination and spatial awareness.

Children work in harmony with staff members, concentrating for extended periods with the task in hand. For example they make models using K'Nex and Mobillo or complete floor puzzles with good levels of concentration. Some children prefer other pursuits such as craft and collage activities or confidently use the educational IT equipment. Children confidently approach staff for help and support when they require it and staff listen and talk to the children and encourage them to extend their experiences and learning. Staff assess and evaluate the activities they provide to ensure children have opportunities that offer suitable challenges and promote their well-being and development.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children feel valued and respected as they become involved in making decisions about new games and play resources to be purchased. They understand behaviour boundaries within the group and accept responsibility for their actions. They have ownership of the ground rules which they discuss and formulate. These codes of courtesy and respect are displayed for everyone to see.

The children have access to a good range of play resources which positively reflect areas of equality. The staff group has a positive attitude towards diversity and well

written equality and diversity policies and procedures are in place and are incorporated into the after school club by all staff. The children's individual culture and religion is recognised and the staff are aware of not gender stereotyping.

Children with special needs are fully supported in the setting. The staff group has undertaken a wide range of training in special needs, and are secure in their knowledge and understanding of the Code of Practice. This positive approach fosters the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well.

Every child has their own key worker to whom they can relate, thus ensuring that individual needs and interests are met and re-enforcing the children's security and sense of belonging. Children relate well to their peers and to the staff. They listen to one another, take turns in activities and play in harmony together. Children are praised and encouraged which helps them to feel good about themselves.

The partnership with parents and carers is good. The parents find the staff friendly, welcoming, approachable and helpful. They receive good information about the setting through the group prospectus, notice-board and the policies and procedures. Children are treated with equal concern and in accordance with parental wishes. Information about children's individual care is gathered from parents and this assists staff to support children well and include those with additional needs.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

All of the children are well cared for and safe at all times. Children benefit from qualified and skilled staff who receive effective induction training and regularly update their knowledge by attending relevant childcare courses to support the care and learning of the children. The dedicated, well deployed staff team work very well together.

The staff are aware of their individual roles for each session and follow the group's daily planning to provide good resources and activities on a daily basis. However, the organisation of resources does not allow children to independently access additional play materials other than the ones set out by staff. There are suitable arrangements in place to deputise and cover staff absences. The leader is very clear about the recent changes to the National Standards and has suitable systems in place to manage these appropriately.

All of the required documentation and records are in place and support the health, safety and well-being of the children attending. The provider regularly reviews the group's policies and procedures to keep them up to date and relevant.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

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 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):

- ensure that all areas used by the children are clean and adhere to health and hygiene legislation
- improve the organisation of play resources to enable children to independently access other play materials other than the ones set out by staff

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