



SPACE@Hillcrest

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY295622
Inspection date	22 February 2006
Inspector	Thecla Grant

Setting Address	Hillcrest Primary School, Cowper Street, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS7 4DR
Telephone number	0113 262 4505
E-mail	
Registered person	Chapelton Community Centre Playscheme
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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Space @ Hillcrest opened in 2005 and operates from a class room and the school hall at Hillcrest Primary School in the Chapeltown area of Leeds. A maximum of 30 children may attend the play scheme at any one time. The play scheme is open each weekday from 09.30 to 15.30 during school holidays only. All children share access to an enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 16 children aged from 5-years to over 8-years old on roll.

Children come from the local and surrounding areas.

The nursery employs 9 staff. Of these 6 staff, including the manager holds appropriate early years qualifications. There are 2 staff working towards a qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children stay healthy because staff generally follow current and appropriate environmental health and hygiene guidelines, policies and procedures. For example, two members of staff have the first aid certificate. Staff consistently reduce the spread of infection by encouraging children to wash their hands. For example, a young child washes her hands using the soap from the dispenser, she picks up a dirty lid and exclaims. "Oh no I just washed my hands." She then washes her hands again. As a result, children fully understand simple good health and hygiene practices.

Children successfully learn about healthy living through the five a day fruit project. The group offers a breakfast of grapes, fresh fruit, bread and drinks. At lunch time the children enjoy the packed lunches prepared by their parents.

The staff organise large and small soft play equipment for the children to climb and jump on. A member of staff supervises the children as they jump. She teaches them new ways in which to move their bodies, by going through the routine herself. For example, she rolls on the mat jumps off the medium size soft equipment and then jumps and turns from the larger equipment onto the mat. The children copy, they enjoy the challenge provided and share in discussing new ways of moving their bodies. As a result, the children thoroughly enjoy physical activities.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment. The staff are friendly and welcoming to the children. They organise the play area well which entices them to play. The staff consistently supervise the children. However, the building is shared by other groups and there is no effective system in place for managing the access to the premises. The group has an emergency procedure, but this is not consistent. For example, the fire drill is not practiced every time the play scheme runs. As a result, children are at risk.

Children keenly access the toys and equipment provided. These are safe, stimulating and provide sufficient challenge. Staff are aware of the safety policy and procedures, but do not effectively implement them. Children are taught to keep themselves safe. For example, they are told not to run on the polished floors with only their socks on.

However, during parts of the morning children take their footwear off leaving only their socks. As a result, children are not effectively learning how to keep themselves safe to avoid accidental injury.

Children are appropriately protected because staff understand their role in child protection and are able to put appropriate procedures into practice when necessary.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children show keen interest as they access the range of toys and equipment. For example, they enjoy playing and watching computer games, they play board games with each other and members of staff, they colour intricate patterns at the colouring table using a variety of colours. The children confidently choose new activities, for example, playing darts. They are settled and take turns appropriately.

The children participate well in all activities, they respond well to new experiences and routines. For example, the staff devise a matching game and the children listen intently to the instructions. They then play the game competently. The children have a positive relationship with the staff and each other. They respond well to challenges. The staff have planning sheets in place, however, these are only used for the summer play scheme. Consequently, other holiday play schemes do not offer children enough choice. As a result, children some times become bored.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by staff that work appropriately with parents to meet individual children's needs and ensure they are fully included in the setting. Children have a strong sense of belonging, for example, they know the routine and are confident in approaching the staff for support when needed. The behaviour policy is in place and effectively implemented.

Children become aware of the wider society and develop self esteem and respect for others because the staff generally provide activities and outings to include other cultures. For example, the play scheme celebrates cultural festivals, such as, the Carnival. The staff take the children to the theatre to see cultural performances. However, there are no resources to reflect positive images of race or disability.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Recruitment and vetting procedures ensure children are well protected and cared for by staff with knowledge and understanding of child development. For example, the staff have completed the play-work course and are committed to improving their own personal development by attending other relevant training courses and workshops.

The staff have a suitable regard for the well-being of all children. The group has developed a suitable range of policies and procedures, which enable staff and volunteers to know how the setting operates. However, these are not effectively implemented with regard to safety. The register is in place, but not filled in accurately.

Overall the quality of the provision does not meet the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report. The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaint 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 inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet 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, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- develop an effective system for managing access to the premises and ensure that it is used
- make sure systems are in place for children to effectively learn how to keep themselves safe and ensure staff fully implement the safety procedures
- make sure a clearly defined procedure for emergency evacuation of the building is in place and fire drills are carried out at all play schemes
- make sure the system for registering children and staff attendance on a daily basis show the hours of attendance

These actions are set out in a ***notice of action to improve*** and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

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