



Vaughan School Holiday Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	960442
Inspection date	15 February 2006
Inspector	Julie Biddle
Setting Address	Vaughan Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 4EL
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Registered person	Harrow Council
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?

Vaughan play scheme operates from Vaughan school in the London Borough of Harrow. Children have access to a main hall and kitchen and toilet facilities. There is access to a safe secure outside play area. The play scheme provides a service for children from the local area.

The play scheme is registered to care for 40 children aged 5-8 years. There are currently 19 children on roll. Children aged 8-12 years also attend.

The play scheme opens five days a week during school holiday times. Sessions are

from 09.30 until 16.30.

Four full time staff work with the children. Staff hold suitable early years qualifications. The setting receives support from the Local Authority.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's health is promoted as the setting is maintained to a good standard of cleanliness. They learn the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines and staff making gentle reminders at appropriate times. For example, children are reminded to wash their hands before they have their lunch and after using the toilet.

Staff are aware of children's dietary needs and food preferences because these are recorded. As a result, children's individual dietary and cultural needs are respected. Children are able to sit comfortably with their friends to eat lunch, as a result children enjoy their meal times as a social event. Staff arrange quiet times after lunch to give children chance to relax and digest their food. Children are offered a mid morning snack and drink, however children are unable to access drinking water independently.

Children are developing a positive attitude to exercise which is enjoyed on a daily basis. They have great fun playing a variety of games, for example team games with the staff. This gives them sufficient opportunities to practice developing their physical skills.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are happy in the setting, they are confident as they select their chosen activity. They show a strong sense of belonging as they greet each other and the staff with warmth. The hall is arranged to allow children to pursue the interests in which they feel safe and at ease. They have access to a range of good quality toys and equipment appropriate for their age and development.

Children's risk of accidental injury is reduced because staff ensure safety measures are met. For example, toys and equipment are checked on regular bases to reduce any hazards. Staff have identified potential risks or dangers and follow efficient procedures for supervision of using the toilets to help keep children safe and secure. Attendance registers are maintained however times of departure are not recorded.

Children's welfare is protected by staff's secure knowledge of child protection issues and the procedure to take if they have concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are self-assured and content in the busy welcoming environment. They enjoy a good range of free play, arts and crafts activities, and both indoor and outdoor physical play. For example children really enjoyed team games, especially when staff joined in with the teams. Children have good opportunities to explore a range of play equipment independently and engage in organised activities. Children were having a lovely time using a karaoke machine on the day of inspection. Children showed confidence as they sing to and with their friends

Children are happy as the staff interact well with them; they laugh, join in games and have fun with them as well as giving support when needed. For example, staff sit with the children helping them to develop their creative skills as they make wind chimes and felt animals. They have great fun in group activities, they share and take turns very well. Staff encouraged the children to explain the rules of the activities to younger children, as a result, children's self-esteem and confidence is very good.

Children are able to relax in the setting and choose either quiet games, or vigorous play depending on their individual needs and interests. For example staff enabled children to play football in the hall safely and leaving space for other quieter activities. Children have access to a variety of creative materials, such as glitter, glue, pens and paper. They enjoy group games such as they football and snooker, they are learning to play well together.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

The setting is welcoming and children attend from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. Children learn about the world in which we live through activities, such as acknowledging different cultures and festivals. They also have access to an adequate range of resources that enable them to develop a positive view of diversity within society. Children are encouraged to participate in all the activities provided. Younger and older children get along well together. Staff are aware of ensuring that the individual needs of the younger children are met. They are given reassurance and support when needed, thus ensuring that they feel happy and settled in their activities. Children behave well, they understand the boundaries that are set and know what is expected of them. For example children know they have to share activities others. Children are developing good self confidence and enjoy positive relationships with the staff and each other.

Parents receive clear information about the setting and activities. For example parents are informed if children need any different clothing for an activity. Parents have the opportunity to share any relevant information with staff to ensure the needs of the child are met. Information about each child is gained through staff completing a form with parents. This helps to ensure that children receive continuity of care.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children feel comfortable and at ease at the setting. The hall is arranged to ensure that the toys and resources are easily accessible to help children choose for themselves. As a result, children are very independent and confident

Policies and procedures are put into practice to help ensure that the children are cared for well. Recruitment and vetting policies and procedures are in place to ensure suitable staff work with children. However, there are not any staff records held on site with the appropriate information that staff are suitable to work with children.

Staff have a clear understanding of their role in supporting the children's learning and play. They work well as a team and are able to make the children feel safe and happy. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the provider agreed to ensure that a suitable range of toys and activities was provided. These resources are now in place, meaning children are able to access and enjoy a good range of well planned activities and age appropriate resources. The provider also agreed to ensure all administered medication was recorded, this is now done meaning children's welfare is protected and safe. The provider has in place effective procedures to ensure all staff are suitably qualified to work with children, however evidence of this is not held on site, all evidence is held centrally with the Local Authority. The setting has a registration system in place, however departure time of children is not recorded meaning children's welfare is not fully protected.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report since the last inspection.

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 children can independently access drinking water at all times
- ensure the departure time of children is recorded
- ensure staff records are available for inspection

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