



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 116350

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	05/08/2003
Inspector Name	Chris Banks

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	Talacre Action Group
Setting Address	Adventure Building Dalby Street London NW5 3NH

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	The Committee of The Talacre Action Group Limited 2275374 802347
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	The Talacre Action Group Limited
Address	82 Forbes Avenue Potters Bar Hertfordshire EN6 5NQ

## ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

### Information about the setting

Talacre play centre is a voluntary sector play provider based in Kentish Town, London NW5. It was registered in 1992 to care for a maximum of 40 children aged 5-8 years.

The play centre caters for children between 5 & 12 and approximately 50% of users are in the 5-7 age range.

It provides a year round service and during term time operates from 3.30 - 6.15. In school holidays opening hours are either 9.30 - 5.30 or 9 - 6pm.

The setting forms part of a redeveloped site that also includes a sports centre and green open space. Facilities for children comprise a two storey building, garden and courtyard area.

A committee of locally elected volunteers manage the service and employ a core team of four staff all of whom are qualified and experienced play workers. Additional sessional workers are employed during school holidays to reflect the overall increase in attendance

### How good is the Day Care?

Talacre Play centre is a well established and valued service. It provides a good standard of care for children aged between 5 & 7 years in a safe and secure setting. Premises are well maintained and space is organised with the needs of the younger age group in mind.

Staff create a relaxed, warm and welcoming atmosphere for all children and place high priority on their overall welfare and safety. The service is well organised and children benefit from having consistent relationships with an experienced and long serving staff team.

Activity programmes offer a good balance of free play and organised activities that include off site trips and outings. Children's participation is good. They are regularly consulted and there is an agreed behaviour code of conduct.

Parents are made very welcome and there are good relationships with long term users. A newsletter and well organised notice board ensures they receive up to date information about the service.

**What has improved since the last inspection?**

Following a redevelopment programme the setting is much improved. Refurbished premises are bright and welcoming and there is now a designated quiet comfortable area for younger children.

**What is being done well?**

- There is good awareness of health and safety issues. Security is kept under review and fund raising efforts are underway to install a video entryphone system.
- Younger children are well integrated into the mixed age range setting. Staff create an atmosphere that encourages older children to support younger or less confident children in a caring and considerate way.
- Before registering their child, parents are given comprehensive written information about the service and are shown around the centre by staff.
- There are clear agreed behaviour boundaries. Parents are requested to talk through the written code of conduct with their child who is then asked to sign an agreement.
- Relationships with many children and parents are long standing. Two current volunteers are ex users and a few parents are active members of the management committee.

**What needs to be improved?**

- a fire blanket should be located in the kitchen area

**Outcome of the inspection**

Good

**CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION**

*All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.*

*As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.*

**WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?**

**The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection**

Std	Recommendation
6	obtain a fire blanket that meets health and safety regulations and locate in the kitchen

## **SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS**

### **STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON**

*Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.*

### **STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION**

*The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.*

### **STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY**

*The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.*

### **STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

*The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.*

### **STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT**

*Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.*

### **STANDARD 6 - SAFETY**

*The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.*

### **STANDARD 7 - HEALTH**

*The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.*

### **STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK**

*Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.*

### **STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

*The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.*

### **STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)**

*The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is*

*proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.*

#### **STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR**

*Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.*

#### **STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS**

*The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.*

#### **STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION**

*The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.*

#### **STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION**

*Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.*