



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 203440

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	31/07/2003
Inspector Name	Susan Catherine McGarry

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Creche Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	Colchester Leisure World Creche
Setting Address	Colchester Leisure World, Cowdray Avenue Colchester Essex CO1 1YH

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Colchester Borough Council
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Colchester Borough Council
Address	Colchester Leisure World, Cowdray Avenue Colchester Essex CO1 1YH

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

Colchester Leisure World Crèche opened in 1991 and the Kids Camp in 1992. They operate from within Colchester Leisure World. The settings serve the local and surrounding areas.

The crèche is registered to provide care for no more than 19 children under 5 years; of these, not more than 6 may be under 2 years at any one time. The Kids Camp is registered to care for no more than 56 children from 5 years to under 8 years at any one time. The numbers on roll varies for both facilities as the provisions are there to serve an ever changing flow of users of the Leisure World complex. Children attend for a variety of sessions. Both of the settings support a small number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The crèche opens 3 days all year round. Sessions are from 09:30 until 12:30. The Kids Camp opens 5 days a week during all the school holidays. Sessions are from 09:00 until 15:00 with extended times from 08:00 until 17:00.

Six part time staff work with the children in the crèche. Four have early years qualifications. One member of staff is currently on a training programme. Twenty full and part time staff work with the children in the Kids Camp. None have early years qualifications.

How good is the Day Care?

Colchester Leisure World crèche and holiday scheme provides satisfactory care for children.

The staff make good use of space and resources to provide children with a variety of sporting opportunities and creative activities within the holiday scheme and provide a secure, reassuring environment to play within the crèche. Staffing ratios meet requirements for most of the time and children are cared for in groups which usually do not exceed the maximum. The setting maintains some records, policies and procedures, although some require attention. Staff working within the crèche hold relevant childcare qualifications and there is a strong emphasis towards training in certain areas.

The staff implement hygiene practices with the children and are made very aware of their responsibilities regarding child protection issues. Information regarding

individual children's diets is recorded on registration forms along with their personal medical details. Some policies are in place regarding health matters. Children attending the holiday scheme are provided with a packed lunch whilst those attending the crèche provide all their own food.

The children have access to a range of activities in the holiday scheme which range from access to the fitness pool for swimming sessions to organised games art and craft. There is an outside play space for children who attend the holiday scheme. The staff respond well to the children and reassure them when needed. However staff should consider mealtimes as an opportunity to further encourage children's independence and social skills and take advantage of the opportunities to interact with them further. The children's behaviour is managed appropriately and they are settled, confident and happy within their surroundings.

The staff have established a working partnership with parents where information is shared and recorded.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection it was agreed that an action plan be forwarded to Ofsted outlining how the crèche supervisor would update her childcare qualification to a level 3. The supervisor has now completed a CACHE DPP. (Level 3)

What is being done well?

- Staff working in the crèche ensure that the children are supported and well cared for. (Standard 2)
- Children attending the holiday scheme are provided with a broad range of activities provided within a well resourced environment. (Standard 3 and 4)
- There is a commitment to ensure that children are protected by staff who regularly receive child protection training. (Standard 1 and 13)

What needs to be improved?

- documentation to include policies and procedures required for organisation, safety, health, equal opportunities, special needs, behaviour management, complaints and child protection for the holiday scheme and for safety, health and special needs for the crèche; (Standards 2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13)
- resources to promote equality of opportunity for both the crèche and holiday scheme; (Standard 5)
- provision at mealtimes to provide opportunities for encouraging children's independence and social skills for the holiday scheme and for informing parents of their baby's food and drink intake whilst attending the crèche. (Standard 8)

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

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 must take the following actions by the date shown**

Std	Action	Date
1	ensure that there are effective procedures in place for checking that staff are suitably qualified and/or experienced to work with children. (This applies to the holiday scheme)	31/08/2003
1	develop and implement an action plan that sets out how supervisors will achieve a level 3 qualification. (This applies to the holiday scheme)	31/08/2003
6	Ensure there are clearly defined procedures for emergency evacuation of the building and that fire drills are carried out periodically, including all new groups of children. (This applies to both the crèche and holiday scheme)	31/08/2003
10	devise and make available to parents, a written statement on special needs which is consistent with current legislation and guidance. Ensure that this is understood and implemented by all staff. (This applies to both the crèche and holiday scheme)	31/08/2003

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

Std	Recommendation
2	develop and implement an action plan detailing how at least half of all childcare staff will hold a level 2 qualification in childcare; (This applies to the holiday scheme)
2	ensure there are sufficient staff working with the children; (This applies to staff ratios and the numbers of children in a group attending the holiday scheme)

2	ensure that all the staff details are available; (This applies to all staff working with children attending the holiday scheme)
5	extend resources in both the crèche and holiday scheme to promote equality of opportunity;
8	Review meal times to enable staff more time to interact with the children attending the holiday scheme and to encourage more independence;
8	Record food and drink intake for babies attending the crèche;
14	ensure that all records relating to day care activities are readily accessible on the premises and available for inspection at all times. This relates to policies and procedures for both provisions in relation to Standards 2,6,7 &10 and additionally for Standards 9,11, 12 &13 for the holiday scheme.

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.