



Office for Standards  
in Education

## DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 260348

### INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	27/04/2004
Inspector Name	Sandra Ellen Varley

### SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Full Day Care
Setting Name	The Croft at Total Fitness
Setting Address	The Parklands Newcastle Road, Trent Vale Stoke-on-Trent Staffordshire ST4 6NW

### REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Total Fitness
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### ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Total Fitness
Address	The Parklands Newcastle Road, Trent Vale Stoke-on-Trent Staffordshire ST4 6NW

## 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

The Croft at Total Fitness Nursery and Creche opened in 2001. It operates from a self-contained unit with four children's group rooms and own facilities, at Total Fitness Health Club's premises at the Parklands in Newcastle. The Nursery and Creche serves the local area.

There are currently 80 children under four years on roll. This includes 14 funded three-year-olds and 4 funded four-year-olds. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs, and who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week all year round, except Bank Holidays and one week at Christmas. Sessions are from 7:30 until 18:00.

There are 14 staff working with the children and a supernumerary person in charge. All of the staff have early years qualifications to NVQ level 2 or 3. Three staff are currently working towards NVQ 3 early years qualification. The setting receives support from a teacher/mentor from the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP).

### How good is the Day Care?

The Croft at Total Fitness Nursery and Creche provides good quality care for children.

Premises are safe and secure and there are effective procedures in place to monitor visitors. Staff offer a welcoming and friendly environment for children and parents. Excellent organisation of rooms, areas and staff ensure children are cared for appropriately. There are comprehensive policies and procedures in place to ensure staff have a consistent approach to their work. Staff work well as a team, share a common purpose and are involved in planning, evaluating and developing the provision.

A high priority is given to children's safety both indoors and outdoors, and on outings. Staff are very aware of their roles and responsibilities. Consistent attention is given, throughout the setting, to developing children's understanding of good hygiene practices and monitoring their health and hygiene. Practices, documentation and staff's knowledge to provide children with healthy and nutritious drinks and

snacks are thorough and well thought out. Staff have a positive awareness and understanding of their responsibilities relating to child protection issues and how to implement them if they have concerns about a child in their care.

Staff organise a stimulating and interesting programme of activities for children and encourage them to make their own choices about play and learning. Staff are knowledgeable of all children's individual needs and how to meet and extend them positively.

There are effective partnerships with parents. They are provided with well-written policies and procedures relating to their child's care. Staff take time to discuss and complete documentation with parents to ensure their wishes are respected and children's individual needs are met. All of the relevant documentation is in place, although some parental consent lacks clear, specific detail.

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

Not applicable.

#### **What is being done well?**

- Excellent organisation of rooms, outdoor play area and staffing to provide children with a bright, safe, stimulating environment. Children are grouped according to age and/or ability and adult: child ratios are met and maintained. The operational plan is detailed and comprehensive. All staff have undertaken induction and show a good awareness of their roles and responsibilities and put policies and procedures into practice. Children are kept safe and their needs are met well.
- The children have access to a wide range of toys and activities, mainly stored at low level, to enable them to develop. They have good opportunities to explore, investigate and play imaginatively in a colourful, stimulating environment. Staff provide a broad range of practical activities. They are flexible in their implementation, giving priority to meeting children's needs and ensuring they are happy and settled.
- There are effective and consistent methods for dealing with children's behaviour. These are age appropriate, using praise rather than criticism, the use of distraction and setting boundaries. Behaviour management is discussed with parents and written procedures are available. Staff provide positive role models and children respond well to their caring approach.
- Staff work closely with all parents and liaise with other professionals to meet the needs of children well. Staff are sensitive towards the needs of parents and children and retain confidentiality. Parents are listened to and are well informed about the provision and their child's progress.

#### **What needs to be improved?**

- documentation, including written consent from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.

**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
7	Request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.

## **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.*