



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY261989

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 19/07/2004
Inspector Name Catherine Greenwood

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name The Little Gym
Setting Address Unit 8, Compass House, Smugglers Way
London
SW18 1DB

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name The Little Gym 4429292

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name The Little Gym
Address Unit 8, Compass House, Smugglers Way
London
SW18 1DB

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 Little Gym opened in November 2003. It comprises of an out of school holiday club that focuses on sports skills development for up to 30 children aged three to under eight years. The Little Gym also provides parent and child classes, and gymnastic based classes for children aged six to twelve years. It is part of a world wide organisation which has more than 140 groups that provide sports activities for children.

The provision is open Monday to Friday and children can attend for sessions that last three hours, during the Summer holidays only. Children are drawn from a wide catchment area. The theme based camps include obstacle courses, use of gymnastic equipment, group activities, movement challenges, arts and crafts and snacks.

The premises are located within the Riverside Development in Wandsworth, and open onto a pedestrian boulevard adjacent to the river Thames. They consist of a very large gym, lobby / viewing area, multi- purpose room, office and three toilets.

Six staff and a manager are available to work in the holiday camps. One member of staff who works full time has an Early Childhood Education qualification, and the other staff have qualifications and experience in sports related activities.

How good is the Day Care?

The Little Gym provides satisfactory care for children. All aspects of the provision are well organised, and effective use is made of the staff, space and resources to ensure that all children are well cared for. Where possible the gym provides care for children with special needs. Most staff have sports related qualifications and experience, but have insufficient childcare qualifications. All staff receive an induction which includes the settings policies and procedures. High priority is given to ensuring children's safety. Staff supervise the children well during all activities and gym equipment is checked daily.

The setting provides a programme of activities for children to develop physical fitness, socialise and take part in art and craft activities. Children learn to follow clear instructions during large group games, for example when using the parachute and playing tag. Staff encourage all children to take part in the activities, and give individual attention to new children who are not familiar with the routine and the

environment. Staff communicate well with each other, discuss how the children are responding to particular activities, and keep the programme of events moving to ensure that children are interested, involved and happy. However, older children are not always given sufficient challenges or individual attention.

Staff praise the children for their achievements, particularly when they use the gym equipment successfully. They manage the children's behaviour well.

There is a good partnership with parents. Parents know what is going on in the centre and receive very good written information related to the aims of the holiday camps, and the schedule of activities and events. Staff have a very friendly and welcoming approach towards parents. Most record keeping systems and policies are in place, but some do not contain enough detail and children's records are not stored securely. Ofsted have not been informed of staff changes or checks for staff.

What has improved since the last inspection?

N/A

What is being done well?

- The provision is very well organised. Staff work closely with the children and supervise them well when they are using the gymnastic equipment.
- Staff provide a very well planned physical activity programme that include large group activities, games and art and craft. The children join in with enthusiasm and are confident and skilled with using the gymnastic equipment.
- There is an excellent range of gym equipment accessible to the children that is appropriate to their age and needs. Staff support the children well with using the equipment correctly and include children with special needs in all activities.
- Staff develop children's own awareness of safety by reminding them which pieces of gym equipment they need to use with staff help. There are good risk assessments in place for checking the safety of all equipment.
- Children are very well behaved and co-operative. Staff manage behaviour through positive reinforcement and give children clear signals when activities are about to change.

What needs to be improved?

- communication, to ensure Ofsted is informed of staff changes and details all necessary checks
- staff qualifications in childcare
- provision for older children attending
- documentation to ensure all written policies and procedures are in place and

they contain sufficient information, the times of children's attendance is recorded, and records are stored securely and confidentially

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
13	Include in the child protection statement, procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.	31/08/2004
1	Ensure that Ofsted is informed of staff changes and details of checks carried out ascertain staff suitability to look after children.	31/08/2004

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 that sets out how qualification requirements for at least 50% of staff to hold a level 2 qualification, appropriate for the care or development of children under 8 years, will be met.
3	Ensure that older children are consistently given a wide range of challenges and individual attention from staff within all activities.
7	Devise and share with staff and parents a written policy and procedure regarding the administration of medication.
14	Review the equal opportunities policy and the special needs statement to ensure that respectively, they include information about how the registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity or ensure that the welfare and development of children with special needs is promoted in partnership with parents and other relevant parties.
14	Record the times of children's attendance, and ensure all records relating

	to children's details are stored securely and confidentially.
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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.