



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 130494

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	30/07/2004
Inspector Name	Lindsey Wright

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Out of School Day Care
Setting Name	Club Excel Playscheme
Setting Address	Edge Grove School High Cross, Aldenham Watford Hertfordshire

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Club Excel Playscheme
Address	Edge Grove School High Cross, Aldenham Watford Hertfordshire WD25 8BN

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

Club Excel Playscheme opened in 2000. It operates from Edgegrove School, High Cross, Aldenham. The playscheme offers sports and activities for children over the age of 5 years. A mini camp for children aged 3-4 years is situated in the prep school building with use of the facilities. The extensive outdoor area of the school is mainly used for sports facilities including swimming and tennis. A sports and dance hall are present for indoor activities. The play scheme serves the local and surrounding areas.

The playscheme is registered for 170 children in total between the ages of 3 and 7 years and offer a facility for children up to 14 years. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The playscheme welcomes children with special needs and the group supports children who speak English as an additional language.

The group opens five days a week, at Easter and during the school summer holidays. Sessions are from 09:30 until 15:30 Monday to Friday.

Staff work on a full time basis with the children. All staff working in the mini camp have teacher training qualifications. Many of the employees within the setting hold teacher training qualifications and work in the school. Other staff members are qualified sport coaches, the younger staff are students.

The proprietor is keen to update training for all staff and works in partnership with the local development team.

How good is the Day Care?

The Club Excel Playscheme provides good care for children. The operational plan ensures all staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities. Staff maintain high ratio's and are able to monitor the children taking part in activities safely. The children are grouped appropriately. All staff complete an effective induction programme. Children have access to an attractive and well maintained environment. The outdoor area is mainly used for sports activities where age appropriate equipment is available.

Staff are vigilant and ensure children and visitors are monitored providing a safe environment. The children's understanding of safety and hygiene is reinforced through the daily routine. Staff are aware of the children's individual requirements

and these are addressed accordingly.

Staff provide a well planned, varied and interesting programme for the children. The children can access a suitable range of resources and equipment to meet their individual needs. All staff have developed very good relationships with the children, offering assistance and encouragement as required by the individual child. The children participated enthusiastically during a swimming session. Staff provide a relaxed environment and give clear guidance to children regarding rules and behaviour management which children generally respect.

Staff have developed very good relationships with parents. They are welcomed to the setting by a friendly, approachable staff team. Information for parents is available, however more detailed information would benefit staff, parents and children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Not applicable.

What is being done well?

- The staff are committed to updating their knowledge and understanding in various areas. The majority of staff are qualified teachers or sports coaches.
- Registration details show clearly when children are present including times of arrivals and departures. Two children were collected early on the day of inspection, this was recorded on the daily memo board and registers.
- The staff provide a wide range of mainly sports orientated facilities for children. The younger age children participated in interesting age appropriate activities including stories, play dough and outdoor play. A group of children enjoyed a swimming session, staff accepted each child's individual abilities. Sports games are adapted to keep children amused.
- The premises and outdoor areas used for the play scheme is an attractive environment and well maintained. There are lots of playing fields, sports hall, heated swimming pool and adequate changing facilities present.
- All staff have received training in emergency first aid. Two children were taken ill during the inspection, staff dealt with the situation appropriately and sensitively.
- Staff meet the individual needs of the children well. Children are offered choices and a flexible programme is in place. Appropriate resources and activities are provided which all children have equal access to.
- Children are fully accommodated with severe allergies. Staff are trained to administer the EpiPen and have access to it at all times.
- Staff promoted children's self esteem by offering lots of encouragement and praise for their efforts during a football activity. The rules of the game were reinforced constantly.

- Staff update parents on a daily basis about their children. Parents are made welcome and can stay to help settle the younger children.
- All staff have updated their knowledge and understanding of Child Protection issues.

What needs to be improved?

- ensure parents are made aware of the appropriate contents and safe storage of lunch boxes
- make parents aware of contact details in the case of making a complaint

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
12	ensure parents are made aware of the appropriate contents and safe storage of lunch boxes
12	make parents aware of contact details in the case of making a complaint

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.