



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN EY251842

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 30/03/2004
Inspector Name Anne Dowse

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Creche Day Care
Setting Name Batchwood Golf and Tennis Club
Setting Address Batchwood Drive
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 5XA

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Leisure Connection Ltd 2566586

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Leisure Connection Ltd
Address Datalogic House
Dunstable Road, Redbourn
St. Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 7PR

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

Batchwood crèche has been operating for many years but have been re registered in new premises since October 2003. It is situated in Batchwood Golf and Tennis Centre, close to the city centre of St Albans. The crèche operates from one main room with a separate toilet/nappy changing room within the room. Separate toilets and changing rooms are available for staff and parents. There is no designated outdoor play area available for the children.

Only people using the sports facilities are able to access the crèche.

There are currently 100 children aged 0-5 on roll. Children are only able to attend the crèche for a maximum of 2 hours and attend various sessions. The setting supports children with special educational needs.

The crèche opens Monday - Friday 09:15 - 12:15 all year except for bank holidays.

Two full time staff and two part time staff work directly with the children.

How good is the Day Care?

Batchwood crèche provides satisfactory care for children.

The core staff have appropriate qualifications. However, when one of these are absent this limits the number of qualified staff available, and there is no named deputy identified at the moment. Staff greet the children into a welcoming environment. Samples of children's creative work is displayed around the room. A clear record of children's time of attendance needs to be documented.

Staff ensure that the children's daily routine for sleeping and eating are attended to. They know the children in their care very well and spend time talking, playing and generally supporting them. Appropriate measures have been implemented to keep the children safe, although staff need to ensure that all records of accidents are signed by the parents.

A range of activities are provided for the children which include creative work such as gluing, painting and play dough. When the numbers are low staff take children for walks around the grounds and are able to access another room for physical play such as riding bikes.

A good range of age appropriate toys are available for the children, although many of these are not accessible.

Parent's questionnaire's reflect that partnership with parents is good. Staff gather information about the children's needs and time is spent talking and communicating with parents on a regular basis. A parent's noticeboard is available with relevant information. They are encouraged to settle their children into the crèche, but are easily contactable as they are always on site.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection the crèche facility re located to a designated room within the building. The fire officer was requested to visit and no recommendations were made.

The crèche were asked to ensure that all staff had received the necessary vetting checks and that these had been successfully cleared. There has been a change of staff and some checks are still in the process of being completed. Only fully vetted staff are left in charge of the children.

What is being done well?

- Interaction between staff and children is very good. Staff communicate with the children using appropriate language and support them in their activities. They listen to the children and give them praise and encouragement.
- Staff spend time getting to know the children and are sensitive to their individual needs. Time is spent settling new children into the crèche and encouraging all children to integrate and interact with one another.

What needs to be improved?

- the daily attendance records to ensure the times of arrival and departure are recorded
- the procedures to ensure accident records are signed by parents
- the accessibility of toys and resources
- the operational plan ensuring there is a named deputy and that a minimum of over half of qualified staff are available at all times.

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
2	Provide operational plan ensuring there is a named deputy and that a minimum of over half of qualified staff are available at all times.	30/04/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
5	Ensure that suitable toys and resources are readily accessible to the children.
6	Ensure that the daily register is accurate and completed on a daily basis showing times of children's arrival and departure.
7	Ensure that all accident records are signed by parents as well as staff.

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.