



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 115396

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date	27/04/2004
Inspector Name	Christine Lynne Hodge

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type	Creche Day Care, Sessional Day Care
Setting Name	Erith Leisure Centre
Setting Address	Erith Sports Centre. Avenue Road Erith Kent DA8 3AJ

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name	Parkwood Leisure PLC IP28367R
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ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name	Parkwood Leisure PLC
Address	Erith Sports Centre Creche Erith Sports Centre Avenue Road Erith, Kent DA8 3AJ

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

Erith Sports Centre Crèche has been registered since 1993 and is situated in a ground floor portacabin room with its own toilet facilities, in a temporary building currently being used by Erith Sports Centre while major refurbishments takes place. The creche is available for use by people taking part in activities and fitness classes at the Centre.

Registration is for a maximum of 8 children under the age of 5 years. The crèche is open Monday to Friday from 09:15 to 15:00 hours. Children can attend for a maximum of 2 hours, however the majority of children attending the crèche do so for one hourly sessions. A total of seven qualified staff are employed to work in the creche during the week. Two or three are present at each session in line with required ratios.

How good is the Day Care?

Erith Sports Centre Creche provides satisfactory care for children. The premises are clean and bright. Staff take appropriate measures to minimise possible risks. Fire drills have not been carried out since the creche moved into the portacabin. Staff are unable to use the toilet area for changing children's nappies as it is currently used to store play provision. The creche does not employ a named deputy to take charge in the absence of the senior creche assistant. All staff have attended child protection training and have a working knowledge of child abuse, however, staff are unclear about the structure within the sports centre for reporting any concerns.

The creche has a good range of toys and resources for children under 5 years which include some resources that promote equality of opportunity. Children can move freely around the room and choose from a variety of activities set out each day by staff before they arrive. Staff interact well with children and are responsive to their individual needs. Children with special needs are welcomed into the creche. Children are generally well behaved and respond to positive behaviour management strategies adopted by staff.

Relationships with parents using the creche facilities are good. Staff warmly welcome and talk to parents when they drop children off and collect them. Information for parents has not been updated since Parkwood took over and staff are unable to display the policies and procedures.

All existing paperwork including the record of accidents book still refers to Leisure Link. There are no fire evacuation procedures in place, or written statements should a parent fail to collect a child or a child becomes lost. There is also no statement of the arrangements in place for the protection of children, or the procedures to be followed in the event of allegation of abuse or neglect. Children's records are adequate and are stored securely and confidentially in a locked cabinet.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Since the last inspection all staff have attended a child protection course and the creche has obtained a copy of Bexley's ACPC Procedures. Although a senior creche assistant has been appointed she does not work at every session. The complaints procedure has been updated to include Ofsted's details.

What is being done well?

- Staff are vigilant about children's safety. The door to the creche room is security coded. Parents, carers and visitors have to ring a bell to gain access.
- Children's behaviour is managed in a positive consistent manner with lots of praise and encouragement. Staff talk to children and explain why poor behaviour is unacceptable. Younger children who do not understand are distracted.
- The creche has a good selection of stimulating play provision which is in good condition and meets the developmental needs of children under 5 years.
- Staff try to accommodate children with special needs into the creche by providing higher staffing ratios and putting out particular toys and equipment to meet individual needs.

What needs to be improved?

- procedures for appointing a qualified person to deputise in the absence of the senior creche assistant
- the storage facilities for toys and play provision and nappy changing facilities in the toilet area
- written documentation relating to procedures for lost and uncollected children and child protection procedures
- written procedures for evacuating the premises in the event of fire and systems for carrying out regular fire drills.
- the contents of the information for parents and current documentation relating to the creche

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	Ensure that a suitably qualified person is appointed as deputy to take charge in the absence of the senior creche assistant.	30/06/2004
2	Provide a written statement of the procedure to be followed in the event that a parent fails to collect a child, or a child is lost.	30/06/2004
6	Ensure that fire evacuations procedures are in place and that regular logged fire drills are carried out.	30/06/2004

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

Std	Recommendation
4	Make sure that the toilet area is kept clear and that adequate storage facilities are provided for toys and play resources.
13	Ensure that a written statement based on the procedures laid out in the booklet "What To Do If You Are Worried A Child Is Being Abused" is available to staff and parents.
14	Ensure that all information and documentation is updated.

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.