

Green Olives Childcare

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspector	Karen Callaghan

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Type of setting	Childcare - Non-Domestic

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Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

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Description of the setting

Green Olives Childcare was registered in 2007 and provides before and afterschool care. It operates from a church building and has access to a large hall, one other room and has kitchen and toilet facilities. It is located in the London Borough of Southwark and is provided for children attending local primary schools. The club operates from 7.00am to 9.00pm and from 3.00pm to 6.00pm from Monday to Friday during term time.

The club is registered on the Early Year Register, the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to and is able to accept a maximum of 30 children aged from three years to under eight. It also caters for children eight and over. There are currently four children under five years old on roll. The club provides support for children who have a learning disability and those who speak English as an additional language. There are currently four members of staff including a volunteer. The manager holds a Level 3 qualification in Child Care and two other members of staff hold Level 2 qualifications..

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The club provides a safe and welcoming environment for all children. The good quality of relationships between staff and children lead to a happy atmosphere where children are keen to attend and engage enthusiastically in a range of activities. Staff are responsive to the needs of both children and their parents. The staff demonstrate positive commitment to ongoing improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- evaluate skills and activities achieved by early years children in order to plan for future progress.
- formalise self-evaluation practices to include clear identification of targets.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The club promotes the welfare of children and keeps the children safe. There is a safe entry to the club which together with a new register system provides robust checks on security. Staff are trained to recognise any child who may be at risk and liaise closely with the local schools to ensure any concerns are dealt with promptly. All necessary records and policies are in place and are checked regularly. Staff are vigilant and implement a comprehensive programme of risk assessment in order to

reduce hazards and keep children safe; for instance, indoor ball games are supervised carefully by staff in the hall away from other table activities. All staff have up-to-date checks to ensure their suitability to work with children.

The stable staff team are managed well by a dedicated manager who responds to the needs and interests of every child. Staff are encouraged to attend a range of courses to improve their skills and knowledge; this term all staff are concentrating on behaviour management. The team demonstrate a willingness to improve and reflect on practice by asking both parents and children for their ideas. However, the club has yet to evaluate these ideas in a more rigorous way in order to plan for the future.

There is a good range of resources and the children are able to choose freely and follow their own interests. Staff listen and provide creative materials for them to use. There are plenty of opportunities for physical play for instance jumping in and out of hoops and practising ball skills within the large hall as there is no outside play area. The children are taken to the local park in the summer months.

Equality and diversity is promoted well. Children celebrate a range of festivals including Divali, Easter and Christmas. Children are encouraged to talk about their experiences including things they enjoy doing and what they have learnt in weekly circle times. Children with special needs are welcomed and well supported by a member of staff who encourages them to join in with the others. There is a range of multicultural books for them to share in quiet reading times. The club organises fund raising activities for both the children and their parents; for instance, the children recently made cakes to be sold to parents for 'Children in Need'.

The club has useful partnerships with the two local schools and meet regularly to gather information on the needs of the children and to endeavour to link curriculum planning to provide continuity of educational themes. The club also has a strong link with the local authority business venture which provides support and advice as well as training opportunities for out of school venues. A quality of assurance scheme provides a mentor to improve the management skills of staff. Partnership with parents is positive with the majority of parents being very satisfied with the provision and care of their children. They are encouraged to complete questionnaires once a year in order to have their views taken into account. Parents appreciate the staff and the effort they put into caring for their children and enjoy being able to chat to them informally and ask for their advice at the end of the day.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

The children enjoy their time at the club and have fun in the company of supportive adults and children of different ages. They benefit from the friendly staff who know their needs well. This enables the children to become confident and independent and willing to try out new activities and experiences. The club facilities allows the children freedom to move around freely and have independent

access to a range of good quality resources to develop their skills for the future. For example, younger children enjoy building wheeled toys together using small construction materials. They have access to computers, writing materials as well as art and craft activities.

Staff plan for children's needs, using the Early Years Foundation Stage for the under five year olds. These plans show the main themes and activities and individual observations show what has been completed and how well. However, the activities and skills learnt have not been evaluated formally which makes progress difficult to assess. Staff inform parents individually once a term of their child's strengths and weaknesses including their behaviour. If there are any problems the manager informs the parent and they work on sorting it out together.

The children display a good awareness of a healthy lifestyle. They know they must wash their hands before touching food because of the transfer of germs, they know that some food is healthier than others and enjoy eating a variety of fruit at tea time. They love playing games and know they are keeping fit.

Children feel safe in this environment. The majority of children are happy and relaxed as they make friends and talk to the older children asking them for help and to join in. They know the club rules and most of them adhere to them making the atmosphere a happy one. They tidy up when asked and are keen to help both the staff and one another. Children say they look forward to coming to the club every day and many parents say their children are reluctant to go home.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:

Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Met