

Notting Hill Adventure Playground

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date

21/11/2011

Inspector

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Setting address

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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.

There were no children on roll when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no children on roll, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states if the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

Description of the setting

Notting Hill Adventure Playground is based in the Venture Community Centre in the Ladbroke Grove area of the Royal borough of Kensington and Chelsea. It first opened in 1958 and provides out of school care and open access play facilities for children from the local community. It is run by the management committee of the Venture Community Association.

Children have use of two outdoor areas with swings and climbing equipment, a garden area and a football pitch. In addition to this children have access to indoor games room and a separate art and crafts room. All children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor adventure play area.

A maximum of 24 children aged from five years to under eight years may attend at any one time. The after school club is open each weekday during term time from 3:40am to 6:45pm. A Saturday club runs from 11:00am to 5pm. During school holidays, the open access scheme is open from Monday to Friday from 10:30am to 5:30pm.

There are currently 306 children on roll. Of these, 62 children are aged under eight years. Staff collect children from three neighbouring schools; St. Thomas's, St. Charles's and St. Mary's Primary schools in Notting Hill area. Children from other schools can also attend the setting.

The setting is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. At the time of the inspection there were no children in the early years age range on roll.

The setting supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The setting currently supports a significant number of children who speak English but hear other languages spoken at home.

Four staff members are employed to work with the children and this includes the manager. All staff are suitably qualified in play work. Vetted regular volunteers support the staff team.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The staff teams understand their responsibilities relating to child protection and the procedures to follow if concerns arise. They have the relevant qualifications and demonstrate a sound level of commitment to promoting children's welfare. They attend safeguarding training and this ensures arrangements for protecting children are carefully managed. Staff members are trained in food hygiene and first aid. Robust vetting procedures are in place to establish staff members' suitability to work with children. All this contributes effectively to the children's care.

Risk assessments are in place for the building and the staff log when they have

undertaken a review. They carry out a visual daily safety check each day and conduct a detailed risk assessment covering everything that children may come into contact with to ensure that hazards to children are kept to a minimum. The attendance register system in place supports that each child's time of arrival and departure is recorded. A record is kept of all visitors to the setting. Accident and existing injury forms are used to promote children's welfare and signed by parents.

Self-evaluation is used informally to identify what is working well. Some use is made of on-going evaluation to identify what children enjoy and explore children and parents' expectations and suggestions. Since the last inspection, the safeguarding policy and procedure has been amended to include how allegations made against members of staff would be managed to protect children. They have secure systems to ensure that all accidents recorded are signed by parents when they are informed. Additionally although raised at the previous inspection, the setting is yet to obtain written permission from parents prior to admission of their children to seek emergency medical treatment or advice in future. This is a breach of requirement.

Documents show that play inclusion ethos ensure children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are welcome. A dedicated staff member is identified to provide one to one support; work with other professionals to assess children's needs and arrange a programme which meets children's needs should this be required. Resources are well maintained and stored to enable children to safely self-select and are suitable for the children that can access them. Positive relationships are maintained with parents. Through personal conversations, and other means of communication, parents and carers are informed of policies and procedures of the after-school care club.

Although there are no children in the early years age group on roll, staff have a secure understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage overall. The staff team works closely with parents to achieve this, which is one of the club's main strengths. Although the setting is open access, staff members work closely in partnership with parents to collect older children from three neighboring schools.

Activities for children include football, physical climbing activities and games in the outdoor playground. The adventure playground offers tango swings, rope bridges that link to a tree house, a cave and waterfall and an up turned ship. The staff team is familiar to the children as some of them work in the school setting providing continuity and effective partnership. Children's individual interests and needs are well known by staff. Children's creativity is enhanced by opportunities for art and crafts, card and mind challenging games to support children's literacy or numeracy. For example, activities organised for children include painting, cooking and ball games.

Children develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles, for example, they are offered snacks and meals in accordance with parents' wishes. Water fountain in the play ground gives children easy access to water as they engage in physical activities. The person in charge is currently in the process of securing funding for a 'healthy eating project' to link the benefits of a range of physical exercises such as swimming, aerobics and athletics to help children make healthy choices in their

food portions to ensure a holistic well being.

Membership forms are used to obtain relevant information about the child relating to medical history, allergies, full name of adult who collects and a number of consents for example for taking of photographs or outings. The setting is yet to obtain information from parents about who has legal contact with the child; and who has parental responsibility for the child. This is a in breach of specific legal requirements. The required records and documentation are in place, maintained and most contain all the necessary information. The setting receives support and advice from the local authority.

Compliance with registration requirements

In order to continue to meet the requirements of registration, the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- obtain written parental permission to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment in the future for all children (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 15/12/2011
- obtain information about who has legal contact with the child; and who has parental responsibility for the child (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare). 08/12/2011

Annex B: the Childcare Register

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