

# Kaytana Playscheme @ Borehamwood & Elstree Synagogue

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Inspector</b>	Tina Kelly
<b>Setting address</b>	PO Box 47, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, WD6 4QF
<b>Telephone number</b>	0208 3865227
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Borehamwood Kaytana
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Care
<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care

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## **ABOUT THIS INSPECTION**

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The provider must give a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must give a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Day Care and Childminding (inspection) (England) Regulations 2005 No 2300 Regulations 5 and 6).

### **The key inspection judgements and what they mean**

*Outstanding:* this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

*Good:* this aspect of the provision is strong

*Satisfactory:* this aspect of the provision is sound

*Inadequate:* this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website:  
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## **THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE**

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

## **WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?**

Kaytana Playscheme was re-registered in 2004, they had previously been included in the registration for the Borehamwood & Elstree United Synagogue site alongside Gilah pre-school.

They have been in operation since August 1996. The scheme has sole use of the site.

A maximum of 72 children between the ages of rising 4 up to 8 years may be cared for, older children up to the age of 11 are catered for in a separate group.

The provision runs for two weeks during the summer holidays. The children have access to outside play areas. They open from 09:30 until 15:30 Monday through to Thursday and finish at 13:00 on the Friday

Children come from the local community with some travelling in from north London. The play scheme does not currently have any children attending with special needs or English as a second language.

The play scheme is managed by three registered providers, it is overseen on a day to day basis by a Programme Director who is also responsible for the children over 8 years. The post is supported by a deputy site manager who currently takes responsibility for the younger children in group 1. The second group of older children has its own supervisor. In total there are 14 staff working with the children, most of whom have early years and teaching qualifications with some who have art and drama backgrounds. They are assisted by a team of volunteers.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean and well managed environment, resources and equipment are in good repair, they are maintained to a high standard. Children's understanding of personal hygiene is good, they wash their hands before eating and access the cloakrooms independently during and after messy play activities. Information regarding the children's medical needs is recorded appropriately. The records are readily accessible to the staff with detail of symptoms and actions to be taken clearly displayed.

Children are learning about the importance of healthy eating through topics and activities planned into the play scheme routines, for example the salads made earlier in the morning were eaten for lunch. Lunch time is a relaxed and informal time when the children are able to join together with friends and siblings from the other groups. Staff eat with the children and assist them in making choices when they make their own sandwiches from a healthy selection of fillings and a side salad. Families provide

their children with water, fresh fruit or vegetable sticks for the morning snacks. Drinking water is available at all times

Children have good opportunities to develop their physical skills, they are keen to access the outside play area with a range of resources which enables them to develop skipping, ball and running skills. Staff join in with the children and encourage these traditional games. Children benefit from specialist play providers coming into the scheme offering a variety of additional activities and skills. Children are aware of their own personal needs, they rest when they are tired and help themselves to drinks when they are thirsty. Through a wide range of physical play opportunities and support from the staff children are developing a positive attitude to developing a healthy lifestyle.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a secure but welcoming environment. The site is well managed, children do not leave the activity rooms or access outside areas on their own. All staff and visiting play providers wear uniform T-shirts for easy identification. The children are confident in approaching adults and know that they are responsible and able to help them. There is a thorough registration process, parents and carers bring the children to the reception areas for each age group where they are signed in and out. There are stringent procedures in place to ensure children are collected by designated adults.

Children's personal safety is of high priority, sunhats that had been decorated earlier in the week are kept on site and used when the children play outside. Appropriate documents are in place to record special needs and medical care and the information is checked at several stages after the registration of the children onto the scheme. Parents are well informed of the play scheme's strong commitment to a safe environment. They are aware of the designated first aiders, those staff who have attended child protection training and the designated child protection worker. Good documentation is in place to maintain the well-being of all children.

Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities and know the procedures to follow should they have concerns about the children in their care. A thorough induction for both staff and volunteers includes health, safety and child protection. All staff undergo rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure their suitability to work with children.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is outstanding.

Children are very happy and content within their environment. Staff actively encourage and praise the children's efforts, they are always close by to offer support and direction. As part of the activities which are consistently linked to the theme of

'Countries' the children discussed food, flags and languages, they had learnt to say "Hello" and count to five in Japanese and Italian.

Children show good levels of concentration, they persevere with tasks set by the staff to work towards completing activities that will later be presented to the entire scheme, this was done when the children prepared salad for lunch time, they had clear instructions and showed a great sense of achievement when thanked by all the other children.

There is a very well-planned range of activities which extends the children's understanding of the wider world in a variety of ways. Passports have been created for children to mark the activities in which they have taken part and for stickers given out as recognition for good behaviour and helping others. Unusual fun and learning experiences are brought into the scheme with the use of outside play providers. This has enabled the children to take part in handling small animals, taking part in cultural activities and a variety of different physical play opportunities.

During the workshops based on different aspects of life in Israel, which was presented by a specialist educational charity, the children were able to assist in making pitta bread. They flattened out the dough onto a plate and took it outside to watch it being cooked on a traditional sidge (bread cooker). Oranges were available for the children to squeeze and they poured the juice into cups. They enjoyed the experience which extended their understanding of how orange juice is made and where the oranges come from. The activities were very well managed, the children's language was developed with staff prompting conversation about taste, smells and what to eat with the cooked pitta breads. The children responded excitedly with personal experiences and preferences about favourite fillings. Some of the pitta breads were saved and eaten at lunch time. The children's self-esteem is fully promoted in all aspects of their play and care.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is outstanding.

Children are welcomed to the scheme as they are signed in at their group entrance, they settle quickly into the activities. Staff take time to listen to children's requests and do their best to provide what is needed and support the children as they adapt and develop their craft and play ideas. Children are confident in their surroundings, after the outside play session some children collected the equipment and put it to one side with no input from the staff who then thanked them for being so thoughtful.

The children are comfortable and relaxed in the setting, a good relationship has developed with the staff who are fully up to date with important aspects of the children's lives, for example one member of staff reflected on the arrival of a new baby and was delighted for the child with a very wobbly tooth.

Children are introduced to different aspects of life from countries around the world. Israel and the Jewish faith is covered in great depth during the visit of the

educational charity which developed their understanding of foods and life in towns and the desert. To support ideas and experiences already well known to the children they have sought advice from a local school which has enabled them to expand on familiar practices within their faith and culture.

A very good relationship has developed with parents and carers. The documentation is good and informs them about the day to day activities and safety aspects of the play scheme. Records are well kept with regards to special needs and medical conditions. Parents are consulted and advice taken to ensure individual needs are well met. They are delighted with the care and consideration given to their children, they appreciate the wide variety of activities and opportunities provided for them.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The children are cared for by an enthusiastic and caring staff team. They have shown a great willingness to commit to the scheme, having attended training in important areas of child welfare such as first aid and child protection. The majority of the staff work in early years or school settings, some have art and drama backgrounds which has a positive impact on the quality of support which is given to the children. There is a very high ratio of staff which ensures children receive excellent levels of support in all of the activities on offer. Staff are responsive to the children's requests for assistance and help. They are well deployed and sit with the children at each activity, they are involved with them at all levels of play.

Routines and planned activities are well thought through. Each activity is relevant to the theme or topic of the week. There is a very good selection of resources that provides the children with a wide range of play opportunities. The outside play area is used by each group several times during the day.

Staff are well supported by the providers and the Programme Director who monitors the various groups and activities throughout the day. At the end of each session staff come together to review issues raised during the day. The scheme is extremely well organised. The documentation available for staff and information for parents is very comprehensive and covers all aspects of the children's care and well-being, however there is not a procedure in the event of allegations being made against a member of staff or volunteer. The providers make very good use of the training offered by Young in Herts, the Local Authority early years development team.

Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

## **Complaints about the childcare provision**

There are no complaints to report.

## **THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE**

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

## **WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?**

### *The quality and standards of the care*

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- develop a procedure to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff or volunteer.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2473)* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)