

Walton Playhouse

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY279259
Inspection date	29/05/2012
Inspector	Lorraine Sparey

Setting address	Hurst Grove, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12 1AU
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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

Walton Playhouse registered in 2004 to provide out of school care and is part of Elmbridge Borough Council Playschemes. It operates from a large hall, a small side room and one upstairs room in premises close to Walton town centre in Surrey. Children from the locality and surrounding area attend. The group is open on weekdays during most school holidays from 8.30am to 5.30pm.

The play scheme is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 40 children aged from under four years to 13 years may attend at any one time. At the time of this inspection there were no children on roll in the early years age group. There are sufficient staff present to meet the minimum required staff to child ratios every day. At least half of them hold early years qualifications.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The registered person demonstrates appropriate knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and how the requirements apply to out of school care. There are secure recruitment and vetting procedures in place to enable management to assess staff's suitability for their role and responsibility. There are appropriate procedures in place to safeguard children. All staff receive an induction and as part of that process they cover how to identify and respond to concerns with regard to children's welfare. Detailed policies and procedures are included in the welcome pack so that parents are familiar with the staff's role and responsibility in safeguarding children. Regular risk assessments enable staff to create a safe, welcoming and well-maintained environment.

There are appropriate procedures in place to enable staff to gather good quality information about children's individual needs. This includes information on their starting points in their learning and development. The registered person describes an adequate range of toys and equipment to meet the needs of children attending. These include resources and activities to enable children to learn about equality and diversity, such as books reflecting different cultures and differing skin tone paints. Staff seek the views of children enabling them to effectively plan activities and play opportunities linked to children's individual needs, abilities and interests. Staff work with children to agree the rules and boundaries to support them in learning to respect and value others. The agreed rules also promote children staying safe.

The registered person describes how important it is to work in partnership with parents to meet children's individual needs. Parents are involved in consultations about various aspects of their children's care and learning and are encouraged to share information about their progress at home. There are procedures in place to work in partnership with other providers to promote a shared approach to children's care and learning.

There are good procedures to monitor and evaluate the whole of the provision which include seeking the views of parents, children and staff. Previous recommendations have been successfully addressed to improve outcomes for children. Regular visits from the registered person and local authority support workers provide opportunities for staff to critically evaluate the provision. Consequently the scheme is well placed to make continuous improvement.

Compliance with registration requirements

The registered person continues to meet the requirements of registration.

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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