

St Luke's Holiday Scheme

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspector Amanda Allen

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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).

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

St. Luke's Holiday Childcare Scheme registered in 2003 and is run by the London Borough Tower Hamlets. It operates from St Luke's primary school in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Children have access to a class room, hall and a large playground.

The scheme is registered to provide care for 78 children, of these no more than 30 may be in the early years age range. There are currently no children on roll at this childcare scheme site. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm five days a week in the school holidays only. The local authority employ a pool of 50 staff to work across their childcare schemes of which the majority hold appropriate childcare qualifications.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childcare scheme is run and managed by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and through discussion and documentation they are able to demonstrate that they have an excellent understanding of how to implement the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and the statutory legal requirements. They understand the importance of providing an inclusive environment where everyone is welcome and children's individual needs are met through regular consultation with parents, staff and children. They are able to demonstrate, through discussion, documentation and training, a clear understanding of what to do if there is a safeguarding concern for a child attending the scheme. Comprehensive safeguarding and complaints policies are in place and all parents receive a copy of these during enrolment in their handbook. The scheme is based on a school site, offering a safe and secure environment for children. They complete comprehensive risk assessments for the school, which are evaluated and reviewed regularly. All staff has received fully enhanced disclosures and the numbers are kept on file. Public liability insurance is in place and is updated each year.

The Local Authority demonstrates a very good understanding of how they make sure the everyday care and welfare routines of children are met. The management and staff have a very clear understanding of the importance of working in partnership with the parents, carers and other professionals in looking after children. They explained how they work with parents to obtain information about children's likes, dislikes and interests so that they are able to meet their individual needs. Highly effective systems are in place to gather information from parents about their child upon admission. Parents are kept fully informed about their child's progress at the end of each session. Each child completes a 'WOW' book of photographs and their own creative pieces to take home at the end of their time at the scheme. Parents also receive copies of their assessment profile so they can see what their child has been doing at the scheme and how they have progressed. Staff at the scheme aim to complement their term-time provision.

They have a strong emphasis on promoting healthy lifestyles with the children. They provide parents with a packed lunch guide for the holiday childcare scheme.

They promote a healthy lifestyle through the provision of healthy snacks, drinks, regular exercise and fresh air. Appropriate numbers of staff hold valid first aid certificates. All documentation is in place for recording accidents and all medication to be administered. Effective boundaries and behaviour management strategies are implemented to help children understand what acceptable behaviour is.

There will be a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities available in a relaxed and calming environment. Through discussion and documentation, staff demonstrate an exciting selection of activities to promote all areas of learning. An excellent balance of indoor and outdoor activities provides children with lots of opportunities to make progress in all areas of their learning and development. They have an exemplary awareness of the assessment procedures to implement as part of monitoring children's progress and identifying their next steps in learning.

The Local Authority is highly reflective in self-evaluating their practice. They understand the importance of reflecting on the service they provide and consistently look at ways to improve and identify the strengths and any areas for further development. The staff team is kept up-to-date with early year's legislation as they attend regular training courses. Recommendations of good practice from previous inspection have been implemented and they demonstrate an excellent capacity to maintain 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

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