

Seven Mills Holiday Scheme

Inspection report for early years provision

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31/07/2012

Inspector

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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

Seven Mills Holiday Play Scheme is a holiday childcare scheme run by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. It opened in 2001 and operates from several classrooms, the dining hall, the main assembly hall and the entire playground of Seven Mills Primary School, within the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. A maximum of 90 children under the age of eight years may attend the provision at any one time, and of these, 50 may be in the early years age range. Seven Mills holiday play scheme also provides care for children aged from eight to 11 years. There are currently no children on roll at this play scheme site.

The provision normally opens each weekday from 8am to 6pm in school holidays. All children share access to secure enclosed outdoor play areas. The local authority employs 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. Through discussion the management team are able to demonstrate that staff have 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 parents receive a copy of these in their handbook. The scheme is based on a school site. The management team complete comprehensive risk assessments for the school, which are evaluated and reviewed regularly. All staff has received fully enhanced disclosures and the reference numbers are kept on file. Public liability insurance is in place and is updated each year. The management team are able to demonstrate through discussion and documentation that they have an excellent understanding of how to implement the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. They provide an inclusive environment where everyone is welcome and children's individual needs are met. The management team describe how they regularly consult with parents, staff and children which enables them to provide a service to meet their individual needs.

The management team demonstrate a very good understanding of how they make sure the everyday care and welfare routines of children are met. They have a clear understanding of the importance of working in partnership with parents, carers and other professionals in looking after children. They were able to explain 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. Evidence suggests highly effective systems are in place to gather information from parents about their child upon admission. The management team encourage staff to keep parents informed about their child's progress through verbal feedback at the end of each session. All children complete a WOW book of photographs and creative artwork to take home at the end of their time at the scheme. The management team explain how parents receive a copy of their child's assessment profile, which enables them to see their child's progress whilst at the scheme. Staff at the scheme aim to

complement their term time provision.

The management team were able to describe how there will be a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities provided in a relaxed and calming environment. Through discussion and documentation, they were able to show plans that show an exciting selection of activities that promote all areas of learning. Evidence suggests a good balance of indoor and outdoor activities will provide children with lots of opportunities to make progress in all areas of their learning and development. The management team 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 staff at the scheme have taken necessary steps to promote children's health through good hygiene procedures. They provide parents with a packed lunch guide for the holiday childcare scheme. They describe how they promote a healthy lifestyle through the provision of healthy snacks, drinks, regular exercise and fresh air. The appropriate number of staff hold valid paediatric first aid certificates to enable them to treat children's minor injuries. Effective systems are in place for them to be able to gather information from parents about their child upon admission. Documentation is in place for the recording of accidents and medication to be administered. The management team describe how effective boundaries and behaviour management strategies are implemented which enable children to understand what acceptable behaviour is.

The Local Authority is highly reflective in self-evaluating their practice. The management team understand the importance of reflecting on the service they provide and they are consistent in looking at ways to improve and identify strengths and areas for further development. The staff team attend regular training which helps them to keep up to date with early years legislation. Evidence suggests recommendations of good practice from the previous inspection have been implemented and the management team 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
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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