

# Rowdown Childcare Centre

Rowdown Primary School Annexe, Calley Down Crescent, New Addington, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 0EG

## Inspection date

26/09/2013

Previous inspection date

28/06/2010

## The quality and standards of the early years provision

**This inspection:**

4

Previous inspection:

3

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend 4

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children 4

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision 4

## The quality and standards of the early years provision

### This provision is inadequate

- The providers' understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, and the requirements of the Childcare Register, is inadequate. As a result, the setting is in breach of a number of legal requirements that impact negatively on children's safety, welfare and well-being.
- The provider has failed to act appropriately after accidents to safeguard children; risk assessments are therefore not robust, as required. In addition, the provider does not plan and implement outside play opportunities every day to allow children to benefit from fresh air and exercise. This is a requirement.
- Staffing arrangements are inadequate. The provider has not maintained ratios as required, staff are not appropriately supervised, and some staff have not been appropriately vetted to demonstrate their suitability. Consequently, children's safety is undermined.
- The provider has failed to maintain required documentation for the safe management of the setting, as registers are not completed correctly and the setting does not carry valid public liability insurance.
- The provider does not provide a suitable book area to encourage children to read for pleasure.

### It has the following strengths

- Children are relaxed when they arrive at the club and can choose from some activities

which interest them.

## **Information about this inspection**

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector examined available records.
- The inspector spoke to staff, parents and children.
- The inspector observed children as they played.
- The inspector looked at the areas of the building which are used by the club.

## **Inspector**

Lesley Hodges

## **Full Report**

### **Information about the setting**

Rowdown Childcare Centre was registered in 2004. It is located in the grounds of Rowdown Primary School. It is one of a number of out of school and holiday play facilities run by Croydon Play Plus. The centre is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. It provides school holiday and after school care for children aged from four years old. There are currently 24 children on roll, although only one child is in the early years age range. The centre is open five days per week in school term from 3pm to 6pm. It is open during the school holidays from 8am to 6pm. It is not open during Bank Holidays, during Christmas holidays or for the first two weeks of the summer holidays. There are six members of staff, three of whom hold childcare qualifications. The centre has the use of a playroom, a reception and cloakroom area, a kitchen, office, toilets, a playground and a field.

### **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

**The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take the following enforcement action:**

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

- obtain an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check in respect of every person aged 16 and over who works directly with children
- ensure that records are available for inspection by Ofsted
- ensure that there is a clear and well-understood policy and procedures for assessing risk to children. Ensure that risk assessments are reviewed regularly
- ensure staffing arrangements meets the needs of children to ensure their safety, with particular regard to ensuring children are adequately supervised at all times.

**To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:**

- implement effective staff supervisions and appraisals which identify training needs and foster a culture of teamwork and continuous improvement for individual staff members and the whole setting
- ensure that a daily record of the names of children being cared for on the premises and their hours of attendance is maintained
- introduce and implement a policy and procedure which covers the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting
- ensure that a lead practitioner for safeguarding is appointed and provision is made for support, advice and guidance for staff on an ongoing basis
- ensure that any concerns about children's welfare are referred to agencies with statutory responsibilities, ensuring procedures outlined in the safeguarding policy are followed
- ensure that outdoor activities are planned and taken on a daily basis (unless circumstances make this inappropriate, for example unsafe weather conditions)
- provide a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all areas of learning and development, with particular regard to creating a comfortable and inviting book area.

## Inspection judgements

### How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

The poor deployment of staff and the lack of rigorous risk assessments have a detrimental effect on children's welfare. There are a number of breaches of requirements which affect children's safety and well-being. As a result, children's individual needs are not met. Required ratios are sometimes exceeded and this has an impact on children's safety. Staff are not vigilant when supervising children's play and consequently, children do not learn how to use equipment safely.

There are some positive aspects of the provision which meet children's needs. Children are relaxed when they arrive at the setting as they greet their friends and choose activities to play with. Staff generally greet children individually and are knowledgeable about their likes and dislikes. This means that staff make activities available for children which they are interested in. For example, children choose colouring sheets and enjoy talking about what colours they are using. Children enjoy talking about their likes and dislikes. They enjoy dressing up games and staff compliment them on their choice of outfits. These interactions foster the development of respectful relationships between children and staff.

As staff talk to children, they take time to explain the meanings of different words when children ask. This develops children's knowledge of vocabulary. Staff provide a book area for children; however, books are not stored attractively and the area is not inviting for children. As a consequence, children cannot relax in a comfortable area and there are therefore missed opportunities for children to read for pleasure.

### The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children

Staff make observations on children when they start at the club. They use these observations to provide activities which children are interested in. Staff complete 'All about Me' forms with children. They chat with children to find out about their favourite foods and activities so that they can learn about the children and provide activities for them.

Children sometimes have access to play equipment in the school playground, or can use the pathways and grassed areas around the annexe. However, staff do not plan to provide these exercise opportunities for children every day. As a result, children do not always have opportunities to play outside. This has an impact on children's well-being. In addition, the weaknesses in safeguarding children means their well-being cannot be assured.

Staff provide small snacks for children such as toast or pasta with tuna. Children sit and chat with each other during this sociable time. Staff talk with children about the different

types of salad they like and provide drinking water for children to serve themselves during sessions. These actions help to support children's awareness of healthy eating and drinking and foster their independence skills.

Staff encourage children to play in small groups. They suggest ways for children to include their friends in their games so that children can learn to play together. Staff chat with children in small groups so that children learn about taking turns in conversations and listening to others' points of view.

Children choose from a range of activities, such as games with numbers and computer games. They use small figures to build and balance to develop their physical skills. Children can choose games and toys easily because most of the resources are stored in boxes which are clearly labelled.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision**

The provider does not understand the need to meet the requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage or the requirements of the Childcare Register. As a result, there are a number of breaches to these legal requirements.

This inspection was brought forward due to a concern received by Ofsted following an accident. The provider does not carry out effective risk assessments to minimise risks to children as they play. Risk assessment forms are available for staff; however, these are not reviewed effectively. Although staff demonstrate some knowledge of potential hazards, their lack of action when there are accidents illustrates that this knowledge does not suitably protect children. As staff do not review play arrangements after accidents, there are further accidents to children. Furthermore, the staff to child ratios is not always met and this means that children are not always supervised appropriately as they play. This means staff are not safeguarding children's welfare.

At times, there is only one member of staff in the building when children are present. In addition, staff deployment means that children are sometimes unsupervised in the annexe building and staff are not always aware of children's whereabouts. Staff have some knowledge of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child in their care. However, correct procedures are not always followed. Staff fail to notify appropriate agencies when they have safeguarding concerns. Staff are also unclear about who, if anyone within their setting, is the designated lead person on safeguarding issues. These failings put children at further risk.

These breaches of the legal requirements demonstrate the providers' lack of understanding of the requirements of Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage and the requirements of the Childcare Register. In addition, a lack of improvement to address notices to improve from previous inspections demonstrates that the provider

does not currently have the capacity to improve. As a result of the inspection findings, Ofsted will take enforcement action to which the provider must respond in order to improve.

Staff demonstrate knowledge about the procedures for the use of mobile phones; however they do not always follow these procedures and the safeguarding policy does not cover the use of mobile phones. There is some attempt at providing supervision meetings for staff, however, written records of these meetings demonstrate that they are not effective and do not adequately support professional development of staff or improvement of the setting as a whole. These breaches and lack of knowledge of the requirements, together with the lack of effective risk assessments, demonstrate a lack of self-evaluation of the provision, which further impacts on safeguarding children.

Not all records are kept on the premises, and not all records are available for inspection. This means that there are insufficient records to demonstrate, for example, staff suitability with regard to disclosure details and references. The provider has not obtained prior permission to keep records off the premises. The provider failed to inform Ofsted of a change in the person managing the setting and this is a further breach of requirements which impacts on children's safety and well-being.

A record of children's attendance is kept; however this is poorly maintained resulting in many omissions of children's hours of attendance. The provider displays a certificate of public liability insurance; however this is out of date and there is no evidence that it has been renewed. These are further breaches of requirements and demonstrate the providers' overall inadequate practice.

### The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met  
(enforcement)**

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met  
(enforcement)**

## What inspection judgements mean

### Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Satisfactory	Satisfactory provision is performing less well than expectations in one or more of the key areas. It requires improvement in order to be good.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be inspected again within 12 months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.



## Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY288565
<b>Local authority</b>	Croydon
<b>Inspection number</b>	937128
<b>Type of provision</b>	
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	4 - 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	42
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	24
<b>Name of provider</b>	Croydon Play Plus Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	28/06/2010
<b>Telephone number</b>	01689 846194

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## Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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