



## Club V

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY314809
<b>Inspection date</b>	04 May 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Sarah Morfett
<b>Setting Address</b>	Medway Valley Leisure Park, Chariot Way, Rochester, Kent, ME2 9HX
<b>Telephone number</b>	01634 292600
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Virgin Active Limited
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Crèche

## 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 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: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## 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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Club V Crèche opened in 2005 and operates from 2 rooms and some of the studios in the Virgin Active Life Centre. It is situated in Rochester, Kent. A maximum of 36 children may attend the crèche at any one time. The crèche is open 7 days a week from 09:30 to 19:00 weekdays and 09:00 to 12:00 weekends for 52 weeks of the year.

There are currently 800 children aged from 6 weeks old to under 15 years on roll. Children come from a wide catchment area. The crèche currently supports a number of children with special educational needs, and also supports a number of children

who speak English as an additional language.

The crèche employs 13 members of staff. At present 6 of the staff, including the manager hold an appropriate early years qualifications. There is 1 member of staff working towards a childcare qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children are provided with a good range of activities which help to promote their understanding of hygiene routines. For example, they are encouraged to wash their hands after using the toilet or playing with messy play activities. Staff provide good resources to help them achieve this, such as, soap and paper towels. Staff regularly clean the toys and children are encouraged to join in. For example, they help to wipe tables and some toys. Therefore, children learn why their health is protected by the sound practice followed.

Children begin to learn that physical exercise is good for them. The crèche provides plenty of opportunity for them to be active. For example, there is a well equipped soft play area and the children are able to use the club facilities during organised sessions. The children are provided with fresh drinking water and they can bring their own drinks. These are left within easy reach so they can access them whenever they need to. Children learn about healthy eating. During the holiday club they enjoy cooking activities and make fruit kebabs. They talk about why these are good for them and take them home to share with their parents. Children begin to learn how to make healthy choices.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. There is plenty of space for them to move around and play freely within safe boundaries. Children select from the suitable range of toys which are displayed around the room and are easily accessed, for example, the role play area, soft play area and the range of baby toys. All resources are appropriate for the ages and stages of children's development. There is a risk assessment routine carried out daily, for example, staff walk round at opening and closing time to ensure all safety equipment is in place. Children's safety is promoted.

Children are protected by the range of suitable safety equipment in place, such as, padding on all the corners, finger guards on doors and the fire fighting equipment. An emergency evacuation plan is in place and the staff demonstrate an awareness of this. This is practised regularly and details are recorded. Children benefit from the safety systems in place.

The crèche has all of the procedures in place to ensure that children's welfare is

safeguarded. For example, all the staff are first aid trained. The child protection policy is informative and staff demonstrate an awareness of the procedures to follow if concerns were to be raised. Staff are positive in their approach to caring for the children, therefore, children's well-being is promoted.

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

The provision is good.

Children are comfortable and happy at the crèche. They demonstrate good levels of well-being and involvement, because staff provide them with a range of stimulating toys, resources and free play experiences. Children interact well with the staff and each other. For example, as children arrive they are warmly welcomed by the staff and go off to investigate what there is to play with. Children enjoy coming to the crèche and settle well.

Children are provided with a good range of activities which meet their ages and stages of development. For example, physical play, role play and art and craft give children opportunities to express themselves. Younger children attending the crèche are supported well as staff have an understanding of the Birth to three matters framework and activities are adapted to cover a range of abilities. Staff support the children well as they sit and play with them at their level. They ask questions which make the children think, therefore, children learn from the effective questioning.

The young children are cared for warmly, the staff offer cuddles and reassurance to them. There is a good range of toys and equipment which supports the babies learning such as, activity centres, play mats and rattles, these keep them amused and entertained. Therefore, they feel settled and relaxed at the crèche.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with a positive view of the wider world around them. They are able to play with a range of activities which increase their awareness of diversity, such as books, puzzles and dressing-up which reflect different cultures. Children are acknowledged and valued by staff who take time to get to know the children whilst they are at the crèche. The procedure in place for recording children's needs means that staff have current information and can care for them according to the parents' wishes. All children are treated as individuals.

Children are well behaved at the crèche. Staff use praise and encouragement to reinforce good behaviour. The children know what is expected of them as clear boundaries are set. Parents receive verbal feedback and a session report at the end of their children's time in the crèche, therefore, they are informed of what the children have been doing. Policies and procedures are displayed for the parents, this means they know the aims of the crèche. Children receive continuity of care

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are comfortable and settled within the suitably organised environment. They feel secure and at ease with familiar staff and their surroundings. They can access an adequate range of play opportunities. Systems are in place to ensure the adults working with children are suitable to do so. However, the recent change of management has not been notified to Ofsted. The registration certificate is displayed and the necessary records are in place. These include attendance records which show arrival and departure times. Children's welfare, care and learning are promoted, due to the effective policies and procedures, which underpin the group's sound practice.

Staff who work at the club hold a current first aid certificate and most of them including the manager hold a current childcare qualification. Overall, the crèche meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

## **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 satisfactory. 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):

- ensure that Ofsted are informed of all significant changes.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)