



## Colville Playcentre

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	159468
<b>Inspection date</b>	08 June 2006
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<b>Setting Address</b>	Colville School House, Lonsdale Road, London, W11 2DF
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<b>Registered person</b>	Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Out of School care

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

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Colville Play centre is one of 18 run by the Community Education Division of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. It opened in in 2001 and operates from four rooms in Colville Primary School in North Kensington.

A maximum of 56 children may attend the play centre at any one time. The play centre is open each week day from 15:30 to 18:00. The setting also operates a breakfast club from 08:00 to 09:00 each week day during term time and a holiday play scheme during the school holidays which opens from 09:00 to 17:30. All children have access to a large outdoor play area.

There are currently 100 children on roll. Of these, 40 are aged from four to under eight years. Children come from a wide catchment area. The play centre currently supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language.

The play centre employs eight staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications and two are working towards a qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is good.

Children's general health and wellbeing is fully assured by the clear and secure knowledge of first aid and emergency procedures. Children are protected from infection because staff follow appropriate hygiene procedures.

Children are well cared for due to the efficient procedures in place for first aid, accidents and medication. This is correctly maintained and shared with parents. The records contain sufficient detail to enable staff to look after the individual needs of the children. For example, there is a very good system in place for staff to have easy access to information on the children with any allergies, medical conditions and dietary needs.

Children are independent in their self care skills. Children learn the importance of good personal hygiene through daily routines. For example, they know why they wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating.

Children benefit from a healthy snack/tea menu. They sit in a large group to enjoy sandwiches, cut vegetables and fruits in a relaxed and social atmosphere, which fosters their social skills and good manners. However the high level of noise during tea time significantly detracts from the calm atmosphere.

Children enjoy fresh air and exercise everyday and they are able to make good progress in their physical development. A range of vigorous, physical, outdoor activities are provided in the adjacent outdoor playground. Children have the opportunity to engage in ball games and a variety of team games. They have fun playing tennis and football. Children understand the importance of taking regular exercise as a way to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are secure and confident and cared for in a safe environment. There are good security precautions in the school. For example, an intercom system in place at the school gate and main doors. Children stay safe in the setting because there is a good deployment of staff who are vigilant in closely supervising children when using different rooms or areas in the school playground.

Children have good access to a range of activities, good quality toys and equipment, which are appropriate to their age and development in the various rooms used. They are safeguarded as staff check the toys and equipment on a regular basis to reduce any hazards.

Fire procedures are in place and children practice regular fire drills to safeguard their welfare in the event of an emergency. Fire fighting equipment are strategically located and regularly checked for its effectiveness. There are suitable risk assessment procedures in place.

Children's risk of accidental injury is reduced, because staff ensure safety measures are met. However, the potential risks to younger children in relation to the access to cleaning materials in the kitchen is ineffective.

Children are safe because staff follow good procedures for their arrival, supervision and collection. The children's safety in regard to child protection is secure. Staff have a good working knowledge and understanding of child protection issues and awareness of the signs and procedures to follow if there are concerns about a child.

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

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic and self assured in the setting's welcoming environment. Warm relationships are evident between staff and children. They are happy content and develop their independence and ability to choose what to play with because a range of activities are presented on tables, on the floor and the outdoor playground. This helps children to make choices in their play, as they quickly settle to their chosen activity. The positive display of children's art and creative work at low level, showing pictures and posters of children happily engaged in activities, make the environment child centred.

Older and younger children play very well together. Children engage in a number of creative activities such as making projects on the world cup games. Children earnestly persist in making various creative activities for the project. For example making mini cut out boards of the football squads of various nations and their national flags. Children engage in games such as connect four, dominoes, draughts and make interesting Lego models.

Children enjoy their time in the after school club because staff use a range of methods effectively. Children benefit from the positive interaction they mostly receive from staff during free-play activities. At these times, their thoughts and ideas are extended by staffs' useful questioning techniques and encouragement. Consequently, children learn to develop their own imaginative ideas in their play. For example, they use their imagination to create interesting models from play dough and engage in meaningful role play. Children are having lots of fun while they explore a good range of interesting activities, which are suitable for their age and geared to their individual interests. They are excited, motivated and highly involved in a variety of games.

Children benefit from a structured curriculum which offers a varied programme of activities. The programme allows flexibility for the children to exercise choice and make their own decisions as to what they would like to take part in. This enables children to develop independent learning skills. They benefit from a nurturing, supportive and caring environment which allows them to enjoy a number of activities. The daily routine ensures that children have a familiar and consistent environment, which enhances their feeling of security and belonging.

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

The provision is good.

Children benefit from the continuity of care that is supported by the exchange of information between staff and parents. They show consideration for one another and happily share resources.

Children are very happy and co-operative. Their behaviour is good and children are able to share and play co-operatively together. They are kind to one another, share and take turns. Children know the guidelines of the behaviour code, which they helped to devise. The behaviour code ladder follows the principle of traffic light system with clear procedures to promote positive play through praise and encouragement. A clear outline of strategies and systems to show how unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with the aim of turning it round to positive behaviour.

Equality for all is encouraged very well as children are helped to understand each other's needs and treat everyone with respect. They develop positive self-esteem and confidence as they voice their opinions and make choices and decisions in their daily routine. The children's committee gives children excellent opportunities to effect change in their daily routine and activities they engage in. This helps the representatives to develop a number of interactive skills with their peers and staff and accomplish a sense of achievement when issues they identified are implemented satisfactorily.

Children learn about the diverse world around them. They experience the value of their own culture through posters, books and by participating in topics about it. Children's sense of security is fostered by the systems in place to promote healthy partnerships with parents.

Children's individual needs are sufficiently met through the procedures used to share and exchange information between parents and staff. Relationships and partnership with parents is friendly. They receive useful information about the setting and staff verbally exchange pertinent information with them on a daily basis. Parents are happy with the level of care and education their children receive.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled as the staff ratios are maintained. Staff are effectively

deployed to support children in their care, learning and play.

Children have strong relationships with staff and enjoy the interesting range of play opportunities that are planned and provided by staff. Children benefit from some useful aspects in the organisation of care, which helps them to develop an understanding of how to keep healthy and learn to manage their own behaviour.

Children benefit from the knowledge that, in the main, staff have knowledge of many of the group's policies and procedures. All of the legally required documentation, which contributes to children's health, safety and wellbeing, is in place and is regularly reviewed. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

At the last inspection, the provider agreed to develop a procedure for a missing or uncollected child policy. Children's safety and welfare is fully safeguarded as a clear policy and procedure is in place. Staff have a good knowledge and understanding of the procedure to follow in the event of a missing or uncollected child.

The provider agreed to ensure that correct ratios are maintained at all time. The records show that correct ratios are maintained. This contributes to the quality of interaction and ensure children's safety.

The provider agreed to ensure health and safety in the children's toilet. Children have access to child sized toilets with adequate wash basins and drying facilities. Children's health within the setting is well supported by staff maintaining an appropriate level of hygiene in the toilet and play areas.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report.

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 good. 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 the potential risks to younger children in relation to the access to cleaning materials in the kitchen is reduced.
- assess the organisation of tea time and take action to minimise the level of noise to ensure a calm atmosphere

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)