



Holly Lodge Family Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY316253
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Inspector	Liz Corr
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Registered person	Holly Lodge Community Association
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	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.

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?

Holly Lodge Family Centre Holiday Play Scheme, was registered in 2006. It is run by the Holly Lodge Community Association. The play scheme operates from the Holly Lodge Family Centre situated, in an area of Highgate in the London borough of Camden and serves the local community. It runs from Monday to Friday between 10.00 until 16.00 during school holidays, for seven weeks a year. Children have access to a large hall and an enclosed area for outdoor play.

There are currently 14 children on roll, this includes children aged up to 10 years. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

There are three members of staff working with the children, one has an appropriate early years qualification and one member of staff is in the process of completing a suitable early years qualification.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are kept healthy through being cared for in a clean environment, with satisfactory measures in place to prevent the spread of infection. Children understand simple hygiene procedures and are familiar with hand washing routines before lunch. One member of staff currently has a first aid qualification and there are good procedures in place to ensure children are appropriately cared for in the event of an accident. However, information given to parents does not contain the setting's sickness policy.

Children enjoy a sociable lunch time where they sit and chat together. Parents provide packed lunches and there are satisfactory systems in place to ensure staff are familiar with special dietary needs. However, arrangements for the storage of packed lunches are not completely suitable, as parents are not provided with written information of what can be stored safely on the premises.

There are good opportunities for children to enjoy fresh air and engage in energetic games as they freely access the outdoor play facilities. They are involved in climbing, jumping, roller skating, and cycling which supports their all round health and physical development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from a welcoming and spacious environment where most hazards are minimised. They are generally kept safe and secure because staff have a proactive attitude to risk assessment. Children are provided with a selection of safe play equipment which is well maintained.

There are effective procedures in place to ensure that only authorised people enter the premises. However, there is no system in place to record details of visitors. Daily registers record children's attendance but they are not fully effective. They do not contain times of children's arrival and departure, which compromises children's safety and is a breach of regulation.

Children are learning how to keep themselves safe outdoors as they are reminded to wear knee pads when they use the roller skates. Children benefit from staff's good awareness of hazardous plants and berries when they are on outings, which promotes their safety and well being. However, the outdoor area is not always adequately supervised and as a result children's safety is compromised.

Children are protected because staff are sufficiently well informed about their role in safeguarding children's welfare. There are effective written procedures in place to ensure that staff are clear about what steps to take if they have concerns about a child.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time here and are happily engaged in a suitable range of activities. The environment enables them to easily make choices about their play including whether to play inside or out. This adds to their feeling of independence and enjoyment.

They receive regular praise and encouragement to try out new skills. Consequently, children develop a strong sense of self that helps build their confidence and self esteem. Children are relaxed and confident in their relationships with staff and each other. They happily play in small groups or pairs and also enjoy being part of a large group at lunch time as they eat their packed lunch together.

Children participate enthusiastically in an interesting range of creative activities. One child proudly holds an aeroplane she has created and when asked what she likes doing best, she says " I am not sure because there is so much to do".

There are good opportunities for children to be quiet when they need to. They sit with their friends or staff and look at books inside. They also have opportunities to develop their imagination as they become immersed in role- play activities, using the variety of dressing up clothes and props.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

There are appropriate systems in place to ensure that children's individual needs are known and recorded by staff. A satisfactory range of multi-cultural resources help children learn about the wider community however, resources with positive images of disability are not available.

Staff cater well for children's physical and learning disabilities. Activities are organised that encourage children to be involved and cater to their individual needs.

Children are polite and have good relationships with staff and each other. They are praised for their efforts and achievements. Their behaviour is managed by setting realistic expectations. Staff talk to the children calmly and softly when they climb onto the snooker table to extend their wooden brick structure. This creates a secure environment where children feel respected and cared for. Staff quietly discuss alternative strategies with each other to secure children's safety and promote good behaviour.

Parents are provided with basic information and are encouraged to complete satisfaction questionnaires at the end of the play scheme. This will be used to monitor the service and make improvements where necessary. Children benefit from the good relationships between staff and parents which are professional and friendly. Some parents expressed their satisfaction with the care their children receive. These comments included, their children are always pleased to attend, they liked the variety of activities and they like the fact the group is quite small.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Parents are warmly welcomed on arrival and there are satisfactory systems in place to share information verbally each day. There are appropriate measures in place for parents to make comments at the end of each play scheme. However, parents information is not sufficiently detailed to ensure parents know about the sickness procedure and storage facilities for packed lunches.

Children are cared for by a suitably qualified and experienced staff team. Though the scheme operates for holiday periods only, children are able to build secure relationships with the adults because where possible, the same staff work together each time.

Most required documentation is in place however, the play scheme has not fully developed its own set of policies and procedures. It relies on policies used for another project operating from the same site. Details of visitors to the premises are not recorded and there are no systems in place to record the arrival and departure times for children, which is a breach of regulation. Therefore, documentation does not fully promote the efficient and safe management of the provision.

Children are provided with plenty of space. Different areas provide good opportunities for children to express themselves through art and crafts and imaginative play. There are also good opportunities for children to sit quietly if want to relax after being involved in more rigorous play.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable

Complaints since the last inspection

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards. 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 the times of children's arrival and departure are recorded and a record of visitors is kept
- improve safety by ensuring that children are supervised in the outdoor area at all times
- improve information for parents regarding packed lunches to include advice of what can be stored safely
- ensure that policies and procedures are organised so they are specific to this setting

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk