



Bromley Mytime at Red Hill

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY288108
Inspection date	10 January 2006
Inspector	Kay Bateson
Setting Address	Redhill Junior School, Red Hill, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 6DA
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Registered person	Bromley Mytime
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?

Bromley Mytime at Red Hill is registered as one of the Bromley Mytime groups. It operates on the premises of Redhill Primary School. The group uses the dining hall and the studio, and has the use of the small hall after 16:30 when it is available. There are kitchen and toilet facilities identified for use by the group and an enclosed playground for outside play. The Out of School group serves children attending Redhill Primary School.

The after school club operates from 15:00 to 18:00 during term time only. Children attending Mytime Out of School group are aged between 4 to 11 years. There are

currently 36 children on roll, of those 24 are under 8 years old. The group currently supports children with special needs.

Three members of staff work with the children attending the group. Two have early years qualifications NVQ level 2 and above. The setting receives support from the Management Committee of Bromley Mytime Charitable Trust who interview, appoint and deliver training programmes to all staff members.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the opportunities provided by the staff for physical play. They have opportunities to play outside during light evenings, or in the hall. They enjoy the very active games run by the visiting sports coach, which provide staff and children with new ideas for fun games to play. Through this energetic play children learn about the effect that physical exercise has on their bodies.

Children enjoy the varied snacks provided that include healthy options of fruit. Staff follow suitable procedures for the preparation of food and encourage children to eat the fruit options provided. Children have a choice of spread or filling, and are able to ask for extra fruit when available. Thirst is suitably satisfied at snack time and children can ask staff for drinks during playtime. However, children do not have independent access to water when in the playroom or hall. Staff are aware of the importance of providing children with opportunities to be independent and to be responsible for their own needs. They agreed to improve the facilities for accessing water by the children at all times.

Children understand about the importance of following good routines for hygiene and know to wash their hands prior to eating and after using the toilet. Staff check children have washed and dried their hands after visiting the toilet. They supervise the washing and drying of hands before snack time closely. However, the current provision for washing hands before snack is not suitable as it can still encourage the spread of infection between the children. The staff are very aware of the importance of keeping children free from cross infection and would improve the present method immediately.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children play in a safe, secure, and bright room with plenty of space for the current number of children. They have additional access to the school hall or outside for additional physical play. At times the room temperature can drop low at the end of the session making it cold for some children and staff. They are currently attending to this matter to improve the overall temperature during the colder winter evenings.

Children are safe and secure in the setting as staff are very aware of the risks and

hazards in the rooms used. They attend to patches of water on the floor immediately, reduce the height of the stack of chairs, and check the outside door is kept locked at all times. Staff follow firm procedures to protect themselves from allegations when supervising children. They are very vigilant while children are playing and are seen looking around the room if another member of staff has to move out of the main room. They ensure there is a member of staff at the front and back of the line of children when moving around the premises. Staff members ensure children stay in small groups when being taken to the toilet or to meet their parents who arrive during snack time.

Children understand the importance of following sound procedures that reduce accidents and risks to them by responding correctly to the request of the staff member. This is apparent when staff quietly remind them to walk in the play room and to watch out for the safety of others while using the snooker cue. They know who to go to if worried or hurt and they know what to do if the fire alarm goes. They watch out for each other when playing in active games that require running, dodging, and tackling. Therefore, they are learning about being aware of their own safety and the safety of others.

Children become involved and play well with a suitable range of equipment and toys available during the evening. The equipment is in sound condition and children are able to use a fair amount of craft materials. There are areas for floor play and construction. Staff are very adept at providing physical games with very little equipment. However, there are only a small amount of books available. These do not support all the ages, interests and diversity of the current group of children that attend. This is an aspect the staff members are aware of and would like to improve soon.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children enjoy their time at the after school club. They enter happily, settle quickly into the routine and talk to the staff members about their day in school. During activity time children settle quickly and become interested and involved in their chosen task. Staff members become involved and interact fully with the children's play. They are very interested in what the children do and talk about. They engage in meaningful conversations with the children and ask questions that promote their thinking skills. This helps to raise the children's self-esteem and confidence. This was apparent when watching children and staff play table top games, learn how to make an origami frog together, and engage in drawing.

Children are encouraged to suggest some ideas for activities that the staff members incorporate into their plans. Staff give sound attention to planning activities that provide a variety of play opportunities that interest and provide suitable challenges for all ages of children. They ensure the children have a balance of energetic and quiet games each evening, such as sitting sharing a story, playing chess, playing football and other games in the hall. Children and staff benefit from the visiting sports coach that introduces them to new ideas for active games. These encourage good

social skills of cooperation and team work, and increase children's thinking skills during a tactical game.

Children are not yet able to display their art and craft work on the walls of the main play room. All work by the children is valued by the staff, who provide notebooks that they can store their work in if they do not wish to take it home. They can also put up their work inside the storage cupboard for others to see. The staff members are planning to improve the provision for displaying children's work so that everyone can see it in the room. Children are quick to tell their parents about what they have been doing at the group whilst getting ready to go home. This informs the parents about the events and care the child is receiving whilst attending the group.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff members welcome the children who are valued, respected and treated as individuals. They look forward to coming, arrive excitedly and settle immediately at the activities on the tables or in the different areas of the room. Children benefit from the full attention given by the staff, this ensures they get to know the children thoroughly, are able to find out about their interests and to be able to support them if worried or upset. Staff are friendly, warm and approachable towards the children, parents and visitors. They give time to listen to the children, help them learn about right from wrong, to be aware of others and act in a socially acceptable manner. This ensures children learn important social skills while growing up.

Children behave well. They play well together sharing toys and taking turns. Staff members ensure they play harmoniously together by using calm, suitable methods of approach to solve disagreements that occur during play. They respond very well to the staff members who consistently praise them, therefore promoting good behaviour. Staff acknowledge the children's use of appropriate table manners, such as using 'please' and 'thank you' during snack time. This boosts children's self-esteem and encourages others to learn by example.

Children learn about diversity as they play alongside each other. They mix very well together. They are fully included in everything and demonstrate respect for each other. This is apparent when mixed groups of children play snooker, play with dolls or play large group games. Children are unable to learn more about diversity as the setting has a limited amount of books and resources that support positive images of people, culture, race and religion. Children with special needs receive suitable support and attention from the staff. They have a sound knowledge and understanding about supporting children with special needs. They obtain information about the care of the child through discussions with the parents. This ensures the staff members meet the individual needs of the child, such as keeping the child warm if the room becomes chilly.

Parents are happy and satisfied with the standard of care their child is receiving. They are pleased their child enjoys going as they talk readily about it when at home. They find the staff, who are building sound working relationships with the current parents, approachable, friendly and accommodating. Staff members regularly inform

parents about any planned events and attend to any concerns immediately. Parents feel suitably informed about the registered group organisation from their information pack. However, they do not feel as well informed about their child's after school club, the staff that work with their child, and activities they provide. Staff are presently developing a board to display information about the setting, staff, and qualifications and training; this will provide a clearer understanding for the parents about the care provided at this group for their child.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children play in a room organised into areas for quiet and more active play. They benefit from the additional opportunities of using the outside area or the hall for physical play. Staff pay sound attention to planning a routine around the needs and ages of the children. They are aware of areas of improvement and have started to put their ideas into practice.

Children are well supported and cared for by a sufficient number of qualified and trained staff, who are happy, supportive and work well as a team. The organisation is currently planning to improve the number of fully trained staff in first aid, and encourages staff to update their knowledge by attending other training on offer.

Children stay safe and are well cared for by the staff members following the sound procedures, policies and agreements that are in place. There are effective contingency arrangements in place to cover the unexpected sickness of the leader. They pay sound attention to the maintenance of records of attendance, accidents, details of the children and obtaining written agreements with parents.

At the time of the inspection, the organisation had not informed Ofsted of significant changes relating to the staff and management of this setting since the time of registration. Children's overall welfare and safety is now secure as details about the current staff, especially the person in charge reached Ofsted before the end of the inspection time.

Overall, 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

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):

- improve the present method for hand washing before eating to protect children from the spread of infection and the independence access to water at all times, especially when children are playing
- develop existing plans to inform parents about the individual setting, the staff and the care provided.
- increase resources, especially the amount of books to support the children's ages, interests and learning about diversity.

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