



## **Ken Acock Centre**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY268233
<b>Inspection date</b>	08 August 2005
<b>Inspector</b>	Christine Bonnett
<b>Setting Address</b>	Carr Road, Northolt, Middlesex, UB5 4RA
<b>Telephone number</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	London Borough of Ealing Play Services
<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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

The Ken Acock Holiday Playscheme is one of several schemes run by Ealing Play Services. It opened in 2003 and operates from a hall in the Ken Acock Youth & Community Centre in Northolt in the London Borough of Ealing. A maximum of 25 children may attend the holiday playscheme at any one time. The playscheme is open for four weeks during the summer holiday, and also during the Easter holiday, from 08:30 to 17:45. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 35 children aged from 5 to 12 years on roll. Children come from

the local and wider community. The holiday playscheme currently supports children with special educational needs, and also supports children who speak English as an additional language. The provider is not registered to provide overnight care.

The playscheme employs 5 staff. Four of the staff, including the manager, hold appropriate early years qualifications.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children's health is promoted as the premises are maintained to a high standard of cleanliness. Children are also developing good self-care skills, as they are encouraged to wash their hands before meals. In addition, the suitably equipped cloakrooms allow children to maintain good hygiene practices. For example, liquid soap and warm-air hand dryers are available.

Parents provide the children's packed lunches, but the scheme supplies mid-morning snacks and drinks. These are nutritious, and healthy. Staff limit the amount each child may have to reinforce the importance of healthy eating.

Effective policies and procedures are in place for first aid, medication and accidents thereby helping to ensure children are well looked after.

Children have the opportunity to make use of a large outdoor play area. They are able to play football, cricket and generally benefit from physical exercise.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children move around freely in a spacious environment with no obvious safety hazards to endanger them. The hall is light, bright, clean and welcoming for children. The manager and staff give priority to making sure children will be safe should they have to evacuate the premises in an emergency. An escape plan is in place and practised regularly with the children to make sure everyone would be able to leave the hall quickly and safely, if necessary. Each week, staff remind the children about the procedure they must follow when the alarm is raised. When asked, the children related confidently what was required of them, and so are learning to take responsibility for keeping themselves safe.

Although the scheme has a policy to follow should a child be lost, it does not have a policy to be followed in the event that a child is uncollected. Greater upset could be caused to a child if there is no clear procedure for staff to follow, should the situation occur.

Children's welfare is safeguarded because the staff have a good understanding and knowledge of their roles and responsibilities in relation to child protection matters, in

line with the local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures. Several of them also hold first aid certificates and are able to assist a child efficiently should an accident occur.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have the opportunity to explore a wide range of play equipment independently, and engage in organised activities. Boys and girls can increase their cricket, football and dance skills as well as indulging their imaginations through a variety of art and craft activities, all of which are fun and stimulating.

Children are able to choose to play indoors or out. They may also exercise choice by requesting a particular play activity be set out for them to enjoy. Regular trips to places of interest, such as the cinema and bowling alley help to broaden the children's interests as well as being fun.

By offering support and encouragement, staff enable children to develop their abilities further, or find new skills, whether it be in explaining the rules of "four in a row", or demonstrating new craft techniques.

Staff interact well with the children; they laugh and have fun with them as well as giving support when needed. Consequently, the children are confident to approach them and express their needs.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have the opportunity to socialise with others from the local and wider community. They also have access to an adequate range of resources that enable them to develop a positive view of diversity within society. Children with special needs are welcome in the playscheme. Staff are committed to ensuring that play provision is accessible to all.

Children are valued and respected as individuals. Appropriate praise and encouragement is given to enhance self-esteem and confidence.

Age-appropriate and positive strategies are used to manage any behavioural difficulties that may arise. Consequently, the concept of right and wrong is being reinforced in ways that the children understand.

Information about the scheme is available for parents to consult to ensure that they are aware of how their child is spending their time. Parents are greeted warmly by staff, and have the opportunity to share any relevant information about their child with them to ensure their needs are met.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children feel comfortable and at ease at the playscheme. The staff organise the day to include quiet activities indoors and physical play outdoors. This means that an individual child would usually be able to find something to interest him or her throughout the session.

Good staff deployment throughout the hall and garden means that children are monitored effectively, particularly when using equipment. This ensures that they do not endanger themselves or others. The younger children benefit from having a key worker assigned to them to give them individual support and make sure their best interests are maintained at all times. The high ratio of appropriately qualified staff benefits the children as they apply their experience and knowledge to their work to give children a positive experience.

Children's welfare is safeguarded through the maintenance of good documentation. Parents are made aware of the policies and procedures the scheme has and how the children's time is spent.

The setting is meeting the needs of all the children for whom it provides care.

## **Improvements since the last inspection**

A recommendation made at the last inspection was to ensure that the toilets were appropriately equipped at all times to enable children to develop good hygiene practices. At this inspection, the toilets were well equipped with toilet rolls and liquid soap. Consequently, the children are now able to develop their self-care skills and good hygiene practices.

A further requirement from the last inspection was to ensure that 50% of staff hold a qualification. This has been achieved as four of the five staff now hold an appropriate National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) qualification.

## **Complaints since the last inspection**

There are no complaints to report

## **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):

- devise a procedure to be followed in the event that a child is not collected
- ensure the complaints procedure includes the address and telephone number of the regulator

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)