

Newington Childcare Centre

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY380111
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Inspector Linda Patricia Coccia

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Type of setting Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

Newington Childcare Centre opened in 2008 and is one of five settings owned and operated by Thanet Early Years Project Ltd. It operates from two rooms in a Children's Centre. It is situated in the area known as Newington in Ramsgate, Kent. Disabled access is available to each room. There is also a self contained crèche room. A maximum of 38 children may attend the nursery at any one time. There are currently 65 children who fall within the Early Years Foundation Stage on roll. The provider is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. A maximum of 12 children may use the crèche room at any one time. The nursery is open each weekday from 08.00 to 18.00 for 49 weeks of the year. All children share access to secure, enclosed outdoor play areas. Children attend from the local and surrounding areas. The nursery currently employs 12 full time staff. All but one hold appropriate early years qualifications, the majority to NVQ level 3 and above.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Staff make good use of a wide range of policies and procedures regarding inclusion to ensure the nursery is meeting children's needs very effectively. Children are engaged in exploring their environment and learning is encouraged by qualified, experienced staff. Action plans and other records show that the manager and her staff have been reviewing and changing their practice to achieve continuous improvement since the centre opened.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- ensure children's observational records are kept up to date

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The provider employs a strong management team. The manager has a clear vision of how the nursery should be operating. She has an overall strategy to ensure that all the elements of care and the various areas of learning are covered. Her current action plans have been formulated through discussions with staff at staff meetings, which are held weekly, and through discussions with parents about their daily requirements. The manager has started the formal written self-evaluation process and she encourages all staff to constantly evaluate their own practice. The staff supervision and monitoring processes have been strengthened since the nursery opened. Staff work very well in partnership with parents. Lots of written information is shared through good use of the children's observational journals, in particular the use of the initial assessments carried out by staff. Parents' individual care requests for their children are noted and acted upon by staff. Those children with special educational needs or who speak English as an additional language are

fully catered for. In some instances staff have used picture cards to help them identify their needs to staff. Some staff are trained in the use of the Makaton signing system. All staff have a good understanding of safeguarding children and are aware of the nursery's child protection procedures, particularly those procedures which may be used if an allegation were made against one of them. The security of the environment is a priority to staff at the nursery as are daily assessments for any potential risks and hazards. There are also good procedures in place for the safe collection of children by responsible adults. Children's well-being is effectively promoted.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children happily select the toys they want to play with from the wide range available to them. They enjoy the book corner. There is a constant hum from it as children read stories with staff and to each other. Books are an integral part of life and can be found in all the activity areas. Children show confidence and happily talk about what they discover. For example, one child, busy with a magnifying glass, explained that he was searching for bugs. When he did not find any, he imagined some. He clearly drew on his previous experiences; showing staff his imaginary bugs and describing what they were. Large photographs of current children playing with activities are taped to the toddler room floor. This helps the children to recognise each other and gives credit to their participation. Children always have choices. For example, they choose when to sit and have their snacks and drinks or whether to join in an adult led activity. Snacks are healthy and nutritious and give plenty of choice. All staff are key workers and/or key worker 'buddies'. This ensures that children always have an adult they can closely relate to. Key workers carry out and record initial assessments and daily observations on their key children proficiently. However, a few of the children's records are incomplete due to a staffing issue which arose last term. Currently a daily planning system works well at the centre. All staff are proficient at sharing children's next steps information on the planning board to ensure that everyone knows what each child should be achieving. Good systems are in place for managing children's behaviour. Where there are major problems the whole staff team works closely with parents to achieve the desired results.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

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.