

# Play Days Day Nursery

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number** EY152999  
**Inspection date** 22/01/2009  
**Inspector** Vivienne Dempsey

**Setting address** James Cook University Hospital, Marton Road,  
Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS4 3BW  
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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

Playdays Day Nursery has been registered as a day care provider since 1990. It is located in adapted accommodation, with a large outdoor play area, within the grounds of the James Cook University Hospital on a main route into central Middlesbrough.

The children are accommodated in separate rooms according to age and share the use of the nursery dining room and outdoor area.

The nursery is registered to care for 80 children aged between birth and five years and operates throughout the year, Monday to Friday from 06.45 to 18.00. Care and education are provided for children of staff working within the hospital. There are currently 163 children on roll, three-year-olds and four-year-olds receive nursery funding. The nursery supports children with learning difficulties and disabilities and children with English as an additional language. All staff have appropriate childcare qualification and two staff have completed the Foundation Stage degree in early years and three staff are in the process of working towards this. Managers are working towards their level 4 management qualification. Two staff are also working towards their foundation stage practice certificate. In addition, the nursery receives professional support from the Middlesbrough Local Education Authority.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

An inclusive and very welcoming service is provided for all children and their families. Staff work closely with parents to meet the individual needs of all children. They have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) requirements and children's developmental files demonstrate that children are making good progress towards the early learning goals. However, observations of children's learning and development are not used fully to plan for the next steps in children's learning. Staff are have good systems in place to ensure continuous improvement. They attend a wide range of training and development opportunities and have developed focus groups to promote outcomes for children and to develop their practice.

## What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- use observation and assessments to identify children's learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating learning experiences for each child. Match these observations to the expectations of the early learning goals
- further develop a culture of reflective practice and self-evaluation, for example, by making time to listen to children's views and to act on them.

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

Staff work well as a team and are all very keen and eager to develop their practice and improve outcomes for children. The staff are managed and led well and staff comments are valued to develop the provision. Staff attend rigorous safeguarding children courses yearly and understand their role in protecting children from harm and neglect. Risk assessments are in place and regularly reviewed. Premises are secure, an intercom system is in place for entry to the setting and record of visitors is maintained. All of which helps to safeguard children.

A key person system is in place and they work closely with parents to meet children's needs. Daily two-way flow of information with parents is provided to ensure continuity of care. Yearly parents evenings are held and developmental files are shared with parents, which helps to keep them informed of their child's progress towards the early learning goals.

Information from parents and partners are used to improve the service provided. Staff work as a team to evaluate the provisions strengths and weaknesses and focus groups have been set up to promote outcomes for children. For example, a focus group has been set up to develop the outdoor area, looking at how they can develop the area to extend children's learning. However children are not included in self-evaluation process at this present time.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Staff have a good understanding of the EYFS learning and development requirements. They have developed the learning environment to enable children to have access to a safe and stimulating environment. All resources are independently available and children have choices about what they do. This helps to develop their confidence and promotes their self esteem. Staff encourage children to be active in their learning. For example, the pre-school children enjoy digging for worms in the garden area, staff support well and encourage children to use magnifying glasses to look at and talk about what they have found. This helps to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. Staff also provide resources for children to draw pictures of worms, such as chalks for drawing on the ground, paper and pencils. Children are then encouraged to find books about worms and look for small world worms inside the nursery. They are motivated to learn and are engaged in the activity for a long period of time.

Children are on task and interested in what they do. They interact well with staff, peers and visitors and are observed to be confident, happy and settled. Babies enjoy exploring the treasure baskets, which contain a wide range of natural and household items. All children have good opportunities to develop their awareness of ICT. Babies enjoy pressing buttons on toys to listen to nursery rhymes and preschool children are able to complete simple programmes on the touch screen computer.

Children's welfare is fully promoted as staff implement the settings policies and

procedures well. They take part in regular emergency evacuation drills, this helps to develop their awareness of fire safety. Healthy, balanced and nutritious meals and snacks are provided and staff work closely with parents to ensure all children's dietary needs are met.

## 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

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

### Leadership and management

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

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	2
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	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](http://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 the last inspection.

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.