



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 123122

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 25/08/2004
Inspector Name Tracy Maria Clarke

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Kimber Adventure Playground
Setting Address Kimber Road
Wandsworth
SW18 4NN

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Wandsworth Borough Council Play Services

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name Wandsworth Borough Council Play Services
Address Hut 1, Wandsworth town Hall
Wandsworth High Street
London
SW18 2PU

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

Kimber Road Adventure Playground has been registered for many years. It is situated on the borders of Earlsfied and Wandsworth, within King Georges Park. The adventure playground is situated close to local shops and is well served by public transport. The facility is managed by the Play Services Department of Wandsworth Borough Council.

The facility operates during term times, from 15:00 to 19:00 Tuesday to Friday, and on Saturdays from 11:00 to 18:00. During the school holidays the opening times are extended to six days a week; Monday to Saturday, from 11:00 to 18:00. The provision operates an open access facility for mainly local children, aged from 5 to 16 years of age.

The adventure playground has a large outside play area, including a BMX track with bikes for hire, sports court, rope swings and skate park. Inside play activities are also available including table tennis, snooker, arts and craft.

There are two permanent members of staff employed at the playground, one holds a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 3 in Playwork and the other is currently working towards this qualification. Additional casual play workers are employed to work alongside the permanent staff. On the day of the inspection four additional casual play workers were present; two had undertaken the Skills Active training course 'Introducing Playwork'.

How good is the Day Care?

Kimber Road Adventure Playground provides satisfactory care for children.

The manager and the majority of staff are experienced in caring for children, however, no staff present at the time of the inspection hold a qualification appropriate to childcare or playwork, at the required level. The staff team work well together, planning the use of the outside area, and providing a range of activities, which are age appropriate. Record keeping is generally well maintained, accessible and securely kept. Relevant policies and procedures are in place.

The premises are utilised well by the staff team, who make good use of the resources and space provided. The outside play area is used daily, and provides lots of space for children to develop their physical skills and take risks within their play.

Staff are inducted well and kept informed of health and safety matters. Regular risk assessments are undertaken to maintain a safe environment. However, there are only two toilets available for all children and adults who use the facility, and these are not kept clean enough, given their high usage.

The staff are caring and fully aware of children's individual needs, promoting an inclusive environment in which children feel valued and supported. There is a suitable range of age appropriate toys, although not all advertised outside activities were taking place due to the lack of BMX track equipment. Staff are good role models for children, setting clear boundaries and creating an environment where good behaviour is valued and encouraged.

The staff team work effectively with parents of children under eight, discussing children's individual needs so that appropriate care and support can be given. Staff speak to parents if there are any incidents involving difficult behaviour, so they can agree consistent methods to tackle the situation.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Nine actions were made at the last inspection, of these five have been met in full.

Staff now undertake fire drills on a regular basis, ensuring that all children and carers are aware of the procedure to be followed in such an emergency. Parents also now give their consent for emergency medical treatment. Policies have been revised as necessary and the registration system enables staff to know which children have entered the playground each day. However, there remains only two toilets available for all the children and adults who use the facility.

The action made in relation to the manager holding a recognised level 3 qualification has not been met; also at the time of the inspection less than 50% of staff hold qualifications appropriate to playwork or caring for children. Actions in respect of these issues have been raised again at this inspection.

What is being done well?

- The staff create a welcoming and inclusive environment, in which children feel valued and supported, and their individual needs are fully known and met.
- Children's behaviour is managed very well by the staff team. Children are fully aware of the boundaries in place and they respond well, turn taking and devising their own rules to games they have initiated, which are in accordance with agreed expectations.
- Staff make effective use of the space provided, so that children are able to move freely from inside to outside, initiate their own play and take risks within a safe environment.
- The induction of new staff is particularly effective, so that all staff are fully aware of their responsibilities in relation to health and safety and protecting

children.

- Children with special needs are fully included, with detailed informative held concerning their individual needs and extra staff employed where children are identified as needing additional support.
- Staff work well with parents, welcoming them into the setting, working closely with them to identify children's individual needs and providing detailed information about the setting and the procedures in place.

What needs to be improved?

- the system to ensure there is a qualified manager in place
- the system to ensure that at least 50% of staff deployed on the premises to work with children under 8 years hold qualifications appropriate to playwork or caring for children
- the cleanliness of the toilets and the availability of additional toilets

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

The Registered Person must take the following actions by the date shown

Std	Action	Date
2	take action to ensure that the manager has a relevant level 3 qualification	30/12/2004
2	take action to ensure that at least 50% of staff working with the children under 8 years, hold a qualification appropriate to playwork or caring for young children	30/12/2004
4	put in place systems to enable the toilets to be regularly checked and maintained in a clean condition	25/09/2004

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
4	increase the number of toilets available.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.