

# Marlborough Playcentre

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Setting address</b>	Draycott Avenue, London, SW3 3AP
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<b>Email</b>	
<b>Type of setting</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises

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## 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 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.

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## **Description of the setting**

Marlborough play centre is located within the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. It is funded and managed by Kensington and Chelsea Community Education Department. The centre offers after school and holiday care. This inspection took place after school time. The setting serves the local community, the centre operates from 3.30pm to 6.00pm daily during term-time and 9.00am to 5.30pm during the school holidays. The centre provides care for 81 children aged between four and 11 years in the after school club of which three are Early Years children. Children who have special educational needs or disability and those for whom English is an additional language are welcomed. The centre is registered on the Early Years Register, the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The scheme operates from two sites one is in the Marlborough school and the other a building on the school playground. There is disabled access. Children have access to an outdoor play area. Four staff work with the children in the after school club, all have early years or play work qualification and experience. There are links with many other providers of early years education.

## **The overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Marlborough Play Centre is an active, happy club. Children are well cared for, safe, and learn how to get on with each other in their relaxing time. It is a fully inclusive setting where children's needs are met and all children have good relationships with the staff. There has been good improvement since the last inspection and this is set to continue. Parents comment, 'There is no better place for my child than here.'

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

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

- support children to help them to learn to keep themselves safe, for example, by involving them in the safety checks of the club
- develop the children's knowledge and understanding of technology, enabling them to have sufficient resources available during the sessions so that they learn how to use it to the best effect.

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

The leadership and management ensured that all the recommendations from the last inspection were quickly addressed and thoroughly implemented. Children are in a secure centre safe from unwelcome intruders. Policies and procedures are reviewed regularly and rigorously. All paperwork is filed and well-organised for quick retrieval. The senior play worker is an effective and efficient leader.

Safeguarding procedures are a high priority including those that ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff are trained to ensure children are well protected. Risk assessments are thorough and comprehensive and carried out daily. However, the staff do not yet involve the children in these checks to help them to understand how to keep themselves safe and free from harm.

The senior play worker and staff have developed effective evaluation to inform them how their systems and daily routines are working and if they are meeting the needs of all the children in their care. They know what to improve such as the quality of resources. At present there are only broken technology resources and the children do not have access to a full knowledge and understanding of this area of the curriculum. The senior play worker has built up a good plan called 'Playing to learn' to support the centre's development. The centre enjoys exceptional support from the host school. The club is allowed to use their playground, playground resources and many other areas in the school such as the school hall for physical exercise. The Wiltshire Close community area and playground is also used by the club to supplement their resources and space for the children.

Professional development is important to the staff and certificates gained are proudly displayed. The senior play worker conducts weekly staff update meetings to decide activities for the following week. He knows the strengths and skills of his staff and makes sure children benefit from them. He is the worker with responsibility for children with special needs and disabilities. He has good relationships with their parents and schools to support them. Staff are consistent in helping children make the right choices and to live together as a great team. Play workers are patient and skilful in involving themselves in children's play but not losing sight of their responsibility towards the children. In turn children learn to take responsible risks, develop independence and enjoy themselves.

The partnership with parents and carers is strong. Parents are fully informed about their child's time at the club. They appreciate all the hard work the staff do to ensure their children are happy, safe and enjoying themselves until they can be collected. As one parent said 'Oh they just love it here!' There are opportunities for parents to talk to staff when they come to collect their children at the end of their working day.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children**

Children of all ages feel safe and secure, they are relaxed and free in their play with each other. They behave well, treat each other with kindness, respect and courtesy. They were observed throughout the session sharing equipment fairly and displayed patience waiting their turn when playing games and waiting their turn to speak. Children know what is expected of them because the staff are good role models for the children to follow and they know their boundaries and club rules.

Staff were heard throughout the session giving well deserved praise and so boost children's self esteem and confidence. As the senior play worker told children 'Nice one' when children show him what they can do in the playground. Another staff

member handled a difficult situation very well by talking to the boys about the importance of great team work and how they succeed by pulling their efforts in the same direction. The staff make sure that all children are included in all activities if they so wish. The children in the early year age range have their own play area which has equipment suitable for their age. Children love to play 'Hide' and 'It' with the early years play worker although on occasions they over-stepped the boundary and became noisy and boisterous.

Planning for children's daily activities ensures that their needs and interests are being well met so that the early years children continue to develop and enjoy their time. The exception is the technology resources which the children said they used to enjoy. Staff value their ideas and listen carefully to their suggestions. Children have their own committee and their decisions are posted up on the children's notice board. They have an important role in the smooth running of the club. This is all helping to build future life skills. They rightly reported that they would like to have their play computer repaired and their television to work once again. Children enjoy relaxing while watching videos and DVDs.

Children have a good understanding of keeping themselves healthy. They know that exercise is good for them, and enjoy their time outdoors being active and energetic. They play ball games and develop their own games such as 'It'. Most of the time they play fairly particularly when the adults are in view. Snack time is a great social time and children exercise their responsibility of choice when deciding what to eat. Water is always available to them. Children are happy, contented and love to try out all the activities that they have helped to plan. They enjoy a variety of activities and thank the staff when their parents come to take them home.

## 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*

### The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

<b>How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

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

<b>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

### The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	2

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## **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