

Parish Church School Kids Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number 253659
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Inspector Glynn Storer

Setting address Parish Church School, Acland Street, Gainsborough,
Lincolnshire, DN21 2SU

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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 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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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

Parish Church School Kids Club has been registered since 1997 and is run by a voluntary management committee. The club operates from classrooms and the hall within Parish Church School. It is situated close to the town centre of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire and serves the local community. The club is included on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. It is registered to provide out of school care for a maximum of 32 children aged three to under eight years. Older children also attend the club. At present there are 140 children on roll aged four to 11 years, of these, 77 are aged under eight years. Sessions run from 07:45 to 08:45 and from 15:30 to 18:00 on weekdays during term time and 08:30 to 18:00 during school holidays. The kids club supports children who speak English as an additional language and there is ready access to the building and facilities for children and carers with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

The club has nine staff who work with the children at various times, either in term time, holidays or both. Of these, eight hold a relevant qualification. The Kids Club receives support from Children's Links.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Parish Kids Club provides good out-of-school education and care. It successfully meets the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children benefit from the good links that staff form with parents and carers and from good co-operation with the main school, which allows them the use of the school's indoor and outdoor facilities. Well trained staff promote children's welfare and learning effectively, particularly in making sure that all children are included in all the setting offers and that their well-being is paramount. Provision is well-organised and the club's capacity for further improvement is good.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- establish further links with staff in the main school and arrangements for the sharing of assessment information that enable club staff to plan and provide experiences that help children to progress more quickly towards the early learning goals
- strengthen arrangements for reviewing the effectiveness of the management committee in overseeing the work of the club and in promoting continuous improvement.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

In most respects, leadership and management are effective. Teamwork is good, daily activities run smoothly and the management committee, along with the club's senior staff, has secured considerable improvements in provision since the last inspection. Resources are better than they were and promote good levels of enjoyment and engagement on the part of the children. There has been extensive staff training, for example, on child protection, first aid and on the revised framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, and two members of staff are working towards higher level childcare qualifications. This focus on professional development enables staff to meet children's welfare and learning needs more effectively, for example, by introducing a 'key worker' scheme for all children under the age of eight and by giving children a greater say in the way the club operates and in the activities that are arranged. The management committee is conscientious in ensuring that the club has clear policies governing all aspects of children's care and welfare. All required policies are up-to-date or in the process of review. Consequently, procedures for safeguarding children meet current government requirements and arrangements for dealing with incidents, accidents, injuries and children's medical or personal needs are robust. For this reason, parents are confident that their children are safe and well cared for at the club. The club's track record of improvements and a range of recent initiatives indicate that the club has a good capacity for further improvement. Nevertheless, the management committee has recognised the need to review its own effectiveness. It has begun to do this informally by bringing in new members who see things with 'fresh eyes', but has yet to make self-review a regular part of the club's management.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Parish Kids Club makes a positive contribution to children's learning and personal development. Effective liaison with staff in the main school has resulted in improved planning. Some club activities now complement topics that children follow in school and this continuity improves the quality of their learning. However, at present, coverage of the areas of learning is patchy and so planning does not promote progress towards the early learning goals as systematically as it could. Nevertheless, children benefit from a good range of resources. They are free to choose activities such as computer games, writing, drawing or number based activities. There are also resources, such as dressing-up clothes and a puppet theatre that promote imaginative play and social interaction. Staff support both learning and play effectively. They strike a good balance between allowing the children to follow their own interests and intervening to guide and support in a way that ensures that children are purposefully engaged throughout the session. In adult-led activities, teaching is good. Staff are well prepared and they direct activities in a way that reinforces children's learning and development effectively. Staff have begun to make informal assessments of children's attainments. They use these as a basis for planning activities built on children's prior learning and for providing feedback to parents and to staff in the main school. However, this

initiative is at an early stage of development.

Children's well-being is of great importance to all staff and they are conscientious in putting the club's welfare policies into practice. There are thorough checks on all facilities and resources at the start of every session. Records show that fire drills are regular and children spoken to knew what to do 'if the siren sounds'. Occasional accidents are dealt with properly because staff have appropriate qualifications in first aid for young children. There are effective systems to ensure that places in the setting are pre-booked and this enables managers to secure appropriate adult to child ratios at all times. Similarly robust systems ensure that only parents or known carers collect children.

Children's personal development is good because staff are attentive to their needs. Children respond well, because they enjoy and benefit from positive relationships with staff. The club promotes safe and healthy lifestyles effectively. Snacks are generally healthy and children engage in activities to strengthen their understanding of the importance of a healthy diet. When conditions allow, there is also provision for lively outdoor play. A strength of the setting is the way that it brings together children of different ages and, in doing so, promotes friendships across the ages and a high level of mutual care and support.

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

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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