

Harlequin Out of School Clubs Ltd

Territorial Army Centre, St Johns Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 9UU

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

02/06/2014

Not Applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

2

Previous inspection:

Not Applicable

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend 2

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children 2

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision 2

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is good

- The children settle quickly, developing positive relationship with staff and children as they play together.
- There is a wide range of activities that take account of children's interests.
- Children develop good levels of confidence and positive self-esteem.
- The children's health benefits from them having physical play in the fresh air.

It is not yet outstanding because

- The staff are not fully engaging all parents in the evaluation of the club.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and outside.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and manager of the club, and viewed relevant documentation.
- The inspector invited the manager to carry out a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment, ongoing professional development and self-evaluation processes.

Inspector

Sue Taylor

Full report

Information about the setting

Harlequin Out of School Clubs Ltd is one of three clubs run by the same owner.

It registered in 2013 and operates from The Territorial Army Centre between Southborough and Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Children have access to two rooms on one level and use of an outdoor play area. The after school facility is open each weekday from 3.20pm to 6.30pm, during term times. The holiday club operates each weekday from 8am to 6.30pm. The club does not open on bank holidays. The club is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The club currently supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

There are five members of staff, four of whom hold appropriate qualifications. The manager has a playwork qualification at level 3, one member of staff has a qualification at level 4 and two hold qualifications at level 2.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- strengthen partnerships with parents so they are all fully engaged in the evaluation of the club practices.

Inspection judgements

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

The club provides a varied range of activities for children that helps support their learning. The children in the afterschool club have a form they fill in with their parent or key person. This helps the staff know about children's interests, likes and dislikes. The children can regularly review this and amend it during their time with the club. The attendance of some holiday club children is more sporadic and they may not have a form. However, the staff get to know the children quickly so staff can incorporate their interests in the planned activities. The staff establish positive relationships with the school and parents so they are able to support children's identified learning needs or homework. There is a good range of useful books for parents and children to borrow. These include story books for children about subjects, such as starting school and informative books for parents, such as helping children to build self-esteem. The planning takes account of children's ideas, alongside adult planned activities. The staff encourage the children to make choices about what they do and children demonstrate good levels of concentration and involvement.

Children are very aware of the routines at the club. They are relaxed and happy. The

conversations and discussions with staff support children's ongoing language development. The staff use good questions that encourage children to communicate and think before they answer. The staff value children's ideas and thoughts. They display examples of children's art and encourage children to comment on activity photographs. Children regularly use the outside area for physical play, for example, building a den or playing ball games. As well as letting children play independently, the staff offer suggestions to help extend their game or activity. The children build a ride-on machine from the construction resources. The staff suggest they try to see if they can launch cushions and balls from part of the machine that has a lever action. The children were excited when this worked. The craft activities are very popular. Children spend time completing a magnetic fish game, with staff encouraging them to do as much as they can themselves. There are resources available for imaginative play, such as role-play areas that the children create themselves. The younger children mix well with the older children and acquire positive social skills. The staff promote and encourage the abilities that children need for their continual learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children

Children are very comfortable and settled at the club. The consistent staff team enables children to develop relationships quickly. The children relate positively to all staff and children. Each child in the afterschool club has a named key person and this system is developing for the holiday club children who may only attend for a few days. The staff promote children's independence as they encourage children to make choices about their play and get their own drinks. Children listen well and respond positively to staff requests. The children come from a number of different schools and all play well together. The staff engage well with children and children's behaviour is excellent. Children's health benefits greatly from having easy access to outdoor play. They have space for energetic play in the fresh air, such as kicking balls or practising to hit a ball with a bat. The staff talk to the children about their play. As a result, the children decide to use the proposed sand pit as a home area for their games instead. Drinking water is always available and children make good use of this after playing outside. The club provides a healthy snack, such as popcorn or bananas and children bring packed lunches.

Children are very familiar with the premises and can access toilets independently, managing their own personal care needs. There is space for physical activities and for those wanting more quiet activities. There is a good range of resources readily available for children. There is a photograph file of other resources and activities in storage, which children can ask for. There are club display boards to help make the environment welcoming to the children. Children take part in fire evacuation drills so they are aware of what to do in an emergency. They learn to keep themselves and others safe as they play or use tools such as scissors or knives to cut fruit.

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

The staff meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements well. They carry out daily risk assessment checks to help ensure the premises are safe. They supervise outdoor play well and children know where they can play. There is detailed guidance in place about child protection and staff attend training on safeguarding. Staff know what to do if they have concerns about a child in their care. The required records are in place and well organised, such as the accident reports. There is an accurate record of children and staff attendance, with their names and times noted. There is clear evidence of the staff team's appropriate checks to demonstrate suitability. A thorough recruitment process is in place, with a clear induction system for new staff. These processes help to promote children's welfare. Staff receive good support for their professional development through supervisions and regular staff meetings. The provider encourages staff to improve their qualifications to enhance further their knowledge and practice.

The provider engages the staff in the evaluation of the club's practices. The staff value the views of children through regular discussion. There is a suggestion box for parents and children to use. However, not all parents are fully engaged in the evaluation of the club. There is an ongoing improvement plan in place that shows how the provider and staff team plan for continual development. Current ideas aim to provide more activities that are challenging for children. The staff team demonstrate a secure capacity to improve. There are positive partnerships with parents and the schools in place to help ensure children receive the support they need.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are	Met
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The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are	Met
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What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Requires improvement	The provision is not giving children a good standard of early years education and/or there are minor breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected within twelve months of the date of this inspection.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected again within six months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY471670
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	940220
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	80
Name of provider	Harlequin Out Of Schools Club Ltd
Date of previous inspection	not applicable
Telephone number	07918665710

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Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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