

Newton Lang Childcare

Sir Henry Fermor C of E School, Crowborough Hill, CROWBOROUGH, East Sussex, TN6 2SD

Inspection date	06/05/2014
Previous inspection date	04/07/2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	4
	Previous inspection:	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		4

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is inadequate

- The risk assessments for school collections are not effective as they do not explicitly cover the procedure for transporting children by car and are not understood by staff, leading to unsafe practices. As a result, children have been left unsupervised in a vehicle. This compromises their safety and well-being.
- Supervision and self-evaluation processes fail to identify where staff practices do not effectively safeguard children.

It has the following strengths

- Children have fun, interact well with staff and form good friendships.
- Children understand the routines of the club and behave well.

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 viewed all areas of the play club.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children.
- The inspector observed the interaction of staff and children during a range of activities.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the deputy manager.
- The inspector viewed a selection of documents, including risk assessments.

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Full report

Information about the setting

Newton Lang Childcare registered in 2011. It is a privately owned out-of-school club operating from Sir Henry Fermor Church of England School, Crowborough, East Sussex. The club has use of the school hall and uses the school grounds for outdoor play.

The club is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. It operates from 7am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6.30pm Monday to Friday and offers holiday provision with dates and times advertised in advanced for parents. There are currently 18 children under eight years on roll, eight of these are in the early years age range. There are eight members of staff who work with the children, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications, including the manager who has Qualified Teacher Status that covers early years. Staff are supported by an administrator.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure that risk assessments clearly identify any risks to children's safety and take action to minimise those risks, with particular regard to arrangements for transporting and collecting children from school
- ensure that staff are suitably supervised and supported to understand their roles and responsibilities

Inspection judgements

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

Children take part in a range of activities that promote all areas of their learning and development. Play is largely child-initiated, however, staff use their knowledge of children's interests to determine which resources to put out. Staff undertake regular observations of children in the early years age range to make sure that they are engaged in the activities offered and enjoy their time at the play club. Staff encourage children to choose the activities they want to join in and are on-hand to offer support when needed. Children chat happily as they play, and confidently ask questions and share their views. Staff frequently join in discussions with children which helps to promote their language and social skills.

There are table-top activities in the hall for children to explore, including a selection of board games. They also use an array of art and craft resources to express themselves creatively, for example, to decorate masks. Staff promote children's physical development

by providing physical games. Activities such as operating computer-game controllers help to develop children's coordination. In addition, children are able to move freely into the outdoor play areas where they play running games, ball games and use ride-on toys.

Staff speak with parents as they arrive to collect their child, passing on information about the activities they have taken part in. This gives parents an opportunity to discuss their child's progress and to share any relevant information from home.

The play club has appropriate arrangements to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The manager takes the lead for coordinating individual care plans for children when necessary and liaises effectively with their parents and school staff. Staff also have experience of working with children who speak English as an additional language. In order to positively reflect children's home languages, staff display welcome posters in different languages and, where possible, ask parents to provide books and resources from home.

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

Some aspects of staff's supervision of the children does not adequately protect them. Staff do not all implement effective safeguarding measures when collecting children from school. As a result children have been left unsupervised in a vehicle on more than one occasion. No child has come to any harm but the staff member did not have the children within sight or hearing and there was potential for children to vacate the vehicle, or for them to be abducted. This puts children's welfare at risk. Within the play club children receive an appropriate level of supervision while also being able to develop age-appropriate levels of independence. For example, they are free to visit the toilets on their own but know to inform a member of staff.

There is a key-person system in place to make sure that the needs of each individual child are understood. Children enjoy the friendly atmosphere and interact well with staff. Children of mixed ages and from a number of local primary schools integrate effectively. They understand how to behave, play cooperatively and are generally developing positive social skills.

Staff focus well on promoting children's health. They make sure the environment is clean, paying special attention to the tables used for preparing and serving snacks. All children wash their hands before sitting down to eat. They have a choice of cooked snacks, such as noodles, as well as sandwiches and fruit. Drinks are available at all times. Children take an active role in serving their own food and several choose to help with the washing up. This helps them to develop practical skills which will be valuable to them in later life.

An adequate range of resources is available for children to select independently. They use these appropriately to extend their learning and enjoyment. The recently improved cushioned relaxation area is very popular, particularly towards the end of the session. There is a lot of space for children to explore outside, including areas for shade, so that

they can enjoy the fresh air on very sunny days.

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

This inspection took place due to a complaint about unsafe practices by play club staff when collecting children from schools. Specifically, this was in relation to a concern that a member of play club staff had left children alone in car outside a school. During the inspection, the manager spoke to the relevant member of staff who confirmed that this has happened on a few occasions. The manager was unaware that this was occurring and recognised that it is unacceptable practice which puts children at risk. The manager has clear expectations on the procedures staff should follow but has failed to check that staff implement them. There is no written risk assessment record to specifically cover transporting children by car and there is no other written guidance to share with staff. The manager has relied on staff knowing instinctively how to safeguard children's welfare and has not given any specific guidance to reflect her expectations. By failing to adequately protect children, the play club is in breach of safeguarding and welfare requirements relating to the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register.

The manager takes responsibility for child protection within the play club. She has attended training to support her in this role and ensures that all staff complete relevant safeguarding training. They understand the procedure to follow should concerns arise about any child. The manager is also aware of the process for responding to allegations against a member of staff. The manager holds very regular meetings with individual staff to discuss their key children, to assess their performance and to identify training needs. However, this process is not sufficiently robust to check that staff are aware of all working practices and understand and apply what they learn in training, particularly in relation to safety. Recruitment procedures are appropriate and details of the checks carried out on each staff member are kept on file.

The manager, deputy and staff team meet regularly to monitor the quality of activities. In addition, staff seek the views of children by providing questionnaires that ask them to identify which aspects of the play club they enjoy and to suggest improvements. This allows children to take an active role in shaping the direction of the play club. While there are some strengths in the arrangements for self-evaluation, the process has not been successful in identifying areas where practices are not meeting requirements. This was also highlighted as a weakness at the last inspection.

Children benefit from the positive relationships in place between the play club staff and their parents. Play club staff also speak regularly to the reception teachers of the schools attended by children. This helps them to support children's development by providing experiences that complement the care they receive at school.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are

Not Met

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are

**(with
actions)**

**Not Met
(with
actions)**

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- ensure that children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that children receiving childcare are kept safe from harm (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
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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	EY439358
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	972884
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	26
Name of provider	Newton Lang Childcare Limited
Date of previous inspection	04/07/2013
Telephone number	01892652405

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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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