

326 Club

Stepsgates Primary School, Stepgates, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 8HT



Inspection date	11 March 2015
Previous inspection date	4 February 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff know the children well and children trust them a great deal. Children play well together and older children are kind and supportive to younger children.
- The club room is very well equipped with a wide range of play resources. Staff present them attractively to provide a highly welcoming and cosy play environment for children.
- Staff plan a good range of play-based activities after school.
- Staff help children to adopt healthy and active lifestyle habits and interests. They provide children with healthy snacks and a nutritious teatime meal. Children have daily opportunities to take part in physical outdoor play. This meets the needs of children after a busy day at school.
- Staff seek and value children's ideas and views, to ensure they have a strong say in the running of the club.
- Leadership and management demonstrate a strong commitment towards improving outcomes for all children. Knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements is secure. There are effective policies and procedures for staff to follow that help protect children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Daily planning for after school activities, particularly during the winter, does not always take full account of all children's interests and needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review, evaluate and refine planning for outdoor play to ensure that all children's interests are fully met each day.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play inside and out and the quality of staff interactions with children.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and looked at relevant documentation, including the safeguarding procedures, staff suitability, children's records, and self-evaluation processes.
- The inspector sought and took account of the views of parents and children during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out observations jointly with the manager.

Inspector

Amanda Tyson

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff gather a good deal of information from parents and the school. This helps them successfully plan and provide for children's continuous progress. For example, staff use pre-agreed methods for encouraging children's listening and attention, and level of confidence. Staff involve children in the weekly activity planning. Children arrive at the club full of enthusiastic chatter about their day. During the winter, before it gets dark, children engage in physical outdoor play, such as skipping and football. However, staff do not always provide resources outside to meet the interests of children who prefer imaginative and creative play. Indoors, children set up elaborate pretend play scenes with small world toys or compete in challenging team games. They make elaborate models and crafts using construction sets, art materials and tools. Staff help create a fun environment as they join in children's play and challenge their thinking by asking skilful questions. Children say they 'love' going to the holiday club because they make fun things, such as a gingerbread house. They enjoy trips to 'the pirate park' and walks along the river.

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

The staff manage the settling-in process well for new children, through a gradual introduction. This ensures they develop secure attachments with staff and other children. They quickly make friends with older children, who are exceptionally kind and supportive towards them. This helps them feel secure and settle into the school. Staff use positive language to remind children of rules, such as walking sensibly along the pavement and being careful when skipping. They involve children in completing risk assessments for outings and make sure children understand safety rules. For example, staying within agreed perimeters at the park and what they do if they get lost.

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

Management gives high priority to safeguarding children's welfare and staff rigorously carry out procedures, when necessary, to keep children safe. For example, practising emergency evacuations and acting on child protection and welfare concerns. There are effective staff recruitment and vetting procedures to help ensure staff suitability. Staff have good opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills through training, which leads to improved outcomes for children. They have regular supervision meetings where they confidentially discuss improving their practice. Staff encourage children to make suggestions, for example, children designed their ideal play environment on a map. Their idea, for adding a sofa and canopy to create a snug area, was implemented with great success. Following the last inspection, management focussed, very successfully, on establishing a strong partnership with children's teachers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY248906
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	843482
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	Wendy Roydhouse
Date of previous inspection	4 February 2010
Telephone number	01932 569326

The 326 Club registered in 2003. It provides after school and holiday care for school age children who attend Stepgate Primary School and Saint Anne's Roman Catholic School, in Chertsey, Surrey. The after school club operates from 3pm to 5.45pm, Monday to Friday during term time. The club provides full day care during the school holidays and on school in-service training days between the hours of 8.30am and 6pm. The club supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. There are three members of staff, of these, two have level 3 qualifications in early years and playwork.

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