St Mary's After School Club



The Green, CHIPPING NORTON, Oxfordshire, OX7 5DH

Inspection date	23 March 2015
Previous inspection date	10 March 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meet range of children who attend	s the needs of the	Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years prov of children	ision to the well-being	Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and early years provision	management of the	Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has not ensured that staff meet the safeguarding requirements. There is no member of staff holding a suitable first-aid qualification through undertaking relevant training always available to respond appropriately in medical emergencies.
- Some staff do not always follow good routines when preparing food that promote children's good health and help minimise the spread of infections. Staff do not take all necessary steps to ensure children can follow good hand-washing routines.
- Leaders and managers do not always work together effectively to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the provision and plan future improvements.
- Staff do not organise the resources indoors to enable children to find what they wish to play with easily.
- Staff do not ensure that parents know who is their child's key person.

It has the following strengths

- Staff are enthusiastic role models and children enjoy their company.
- Staff take note of children's interests and plan some activities that follow these so children enjoy what they do.
- Children enjoy daily opportunities to play outside where they have energetic play including football and choose from a wide range of outdoor play equipment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that there is at least one person who has a current paediatric first-aid certificate on the premises at all times when children are present to handle medical emergencies
- devise a plan for future improvements to the provision based on accurate evaluation to determine training needs for raising the quality of teaching to a good standard and ensuring requirements are met
- improve key-person arrangements to enable regular exchanges of information between parents and the staff who take special responsibility for their children
- improve hand-washing and food- preparation routines and facilities to minimise the risk of the spread of infections between children.

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

improve the storage and presentation of resources indoors so that children can easily find what they wish to play with.

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

- ensure that there at least one person caring for children has an appropriate first aid (compulsory part of the childcare register)
- ensure staff take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health of the children in their care (compulsory part of the childcare register)
- ensure that there is at least one person caring for children has an appropriate first aid qualification (voluntary part of the childcare register)
- ensure staff take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the heath of the children in their care (voluntary part of the childcare register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities and talked to staff and children.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and discussed these with the manager and area manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector spoke with staff about their understanding of first aid, child protection and safeguarding requirements.

Inspector Sarah Holley

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Staff provide a range of activities that complement children's experiences at school; children are happily occupied. For example, some enjoy playing energetic ball games outside and children willingly prepare their snacks. Other children enjoy collecting football cards and are keen to show staff their new acquisitions. However, staff do not always organise resources well. When outside children find what they need easily but indoors children often need to ask staff for what they want. Sometimes become disinterested because of this and move quickly between activities as a result. Not all parents or staff are aware of who each child's special person is who is designated to make sure each child gets the care they need and to help them settle in. Although each child has a named person, the lack of knowledge regarding this means information sharing about children's well-being is not always as effective as possible. Staff do, however, liaise with school staff regularly to know how children are at school.

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

Staff take steps to ensure the premises are safe. For example, an intercom system helps prevent unwanted visitors from entering the building and staff use walkie-talkies to speak with colleagues when children play outside. This means children are supervised. Staff help children sort out disputes and disagreements. Staff join in children's play and children enjoy being praised for what they achieve, such as when they score a goal. Staff do not always use good care practices. For example, staff do not use certain cloths for particular cleaning tasks and children cannot reach the soap dispensers in the toilet area which are designed for use by taller children. All staff receive safeguarding training and know what steps to take if they are concerned about a child's welfare.

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

The out-of-school club manager holds an early years qualifications at level 2 and several team members are currently undertaking qualifications and training to improve their knowledge and skills. The manager, for example, holds a first-aid qualification but not in paediatric first aid as required. However, no child has come to significant harm because of this. Other suitably qualified staff from the parent company will provide such skills until the club's staff have completed such qualifications. The parent company has recently introduced supervisions for all staff to improve performance. The area manager and manager identify some strengths and weaknesses of the provision. However, not all staff contribute their views to this process to help bring about further improvements; consequently, self-evaluation remains weak so is raised to an action at this inspection.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396775
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	986491
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	12
Name of provider	Oxford Active Limited
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2010
Telephone number	01608 624673

St Mary's After School Club registered in 2009. It is located in Chipping Norton. It is open from 3pm until 6pm each week day, during term time only. There are four members of staff employed, the manager holds a level 2 Diploma in Playwork and one staff holds a level 3 sports-coaching qualification.

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