

The Play Pad

Stafford Leys Cp School, Stafford Leys, Leicester Forest East, LEICESTER, LE3 3LJ



Inspection date

24 March 2015

Previous inspection date

30 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Well-qualified staff provide a well organised and enjoyable learning environment, which complements that of the school day well.
- A strong relationship and good sharing of information between the staff at the club and the school means staff know the children well. Relationships with parents and carers are equally as effective to help meet the children's individual needs.
- Staff provide a relaxed environment and have a warm and caring approach. Consequently, children feel safe at the club. They confidently decide what to do and increase their independence.
- The experienced manager takes an active role in leading good practice, training and coaching staff to raise their skills. There are effective strategies in place to protect and safeguard children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not fully encouraged to spend time in the fresh air, taking part in physical activities, as staff do not plan a full enough range of experiences to capture their interest.
- Staff do not always ensure that the younger children have their turn at the most popular activities, to help further increase their enjoyment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to take part in more physical activities in the fresh air, for example, by providing a broader range of physical play opportunities outdoors
- support more fully the younger children to take their turn so they are able to use the most popular activities, alongside the older children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playrooms.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of staff working within the club, and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector also took account of the feedback from parents and carers spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Parm Sansoyer

Inspection findings

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

This enthusiastic staff team provide a good range of meaningful activities, which capture the children's interest and curiosity. Children show good levels of interest in their chosen activities and thoroughly enjoy their time at the club. Staff plan a good balance of adult-led activities often around the chosen topic, such as the seasons and festivals. In addition, staff provide a broad range of resources that the children enjoy. For example, children write various words on the easel, and others solve mathematical problems as they play with the board games. This provides good, playful opportunities to increase their mathematical and literacy development in preparation for their next stage of learning. All children confidently move between the two rooms and are independent learners. However, on occasions the older children dominate the most popular activities, such as the electronic games. Consequently, the younger children have to wait too long for their turn. This is due to staff not always successfully monitoring the turn-taking system in place.

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

Staff foster the children's personal, social and emotional development well. This is because the staff know the children and make time to get to know their parents and carers. Parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection are very positive about the club. In particular, they report that the communication systems in place with the club and the school help keep them fully informed. Children are well behaved, they know the routine and respond well to direction from the staff. For example, they know that certain rules are in place to ensure their safety. Staff teach children about leading a healthy lifestyle through, for example, topics on healthy eating. In addition, they are provided with a substantial snack, which includes healthy options. Children have the option of using the outdoor area for physical play. However, some children do not choose to be physical outdoors. This is because not a wide enough range of activities are made freely available to capture their interest.

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

The manager has a good overview of the club and a clear plan to further enhance experiences for children. There are also good arrangements in place to gain the views of parents, carers and children. This information is used well to adapt and change the service offered to meet children's needs. The manager has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This results in all staff having a good understanding of the safeguarding policy and procedures to keep children safe. The manager is in a good position to monitor and coach staff as she also works directly with the children. Consequently, staff benefit from targeted supervision and training to improve the quality of teaching and the activities they provide.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY337172
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	862719
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	102
Name of provider	Louise Joanna Percival
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2009
Telephone number	07773 413859

The Play Pad opened in 2003 and moved to the current premises in 2006. It operates from the grounds of Stafford Leys Community Primary School. The club is open each weekday from 7.30am to 9am and 3.15pm to 5.30pm, during the school term. The club employs seven members of staff. Of these, five hold a qualification at level 3.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

