

Inspection date

7 April 2015

Previous inspection date

12 January 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

- Children are happy and confident individuals who have a good understanding of the expectation of good behaviour. They have warm relationships with staff and each other and play harmoniously together.
- Staff involve children in making decisions about their play experiences, resources and outings. As a result, they are self-motivated and active learners.
- The partnerships with schools and other early years settings are particularly good. Staff endeavour to support children's move into the club by liaising closely with others who care for the children.
- Staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding. They attend regular training and understand the reporting procedures that protect children from abuse or neglect.
- Children's good health is promoted well. They benefit from a good range of nutritious snacks and help to grow their own fruit and vegetables.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is scope to enhance the skills of staff to help children learn more about the woodland environment they play in and develop their understanding of risk and safe practices.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance staff's knowledge of play in the outdoor environment so they can even more ably extend children's outdoor skills, their understanding of the world and their ability to take acceptable risks.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records and spoke to children and staff about the activities.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents, looked at parents' comments and the results of parent surveys.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at the records of staff suitability and training and discussed the management of the club with the owner and the manager.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy making art and craft creations, such as Easter pictures. They make up their own games and play imaginatively. Big cardboard boxes become boats, while large building blocks are pretend bicycles or horses. Staff have good teaching skills and support the children well as they play. They talk to the children to promote their thinking, such as discussing and explaining the texture of clay. Children converse confidently to staff, who show they value their contributions. Staff plan exciting trips to play parks and recreational areas. They encourage children to record their experiences by providing cameras and printing facilities, developing children's understanding of technology. Staff provide informed support for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They skilfully adapt activities and enable children to take part and achieve well.

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

Children learn to value and respect each other because staff are good role models. They work to mutually agreed boundaries that encourage children to share and play cooperatively. Children are involved in planning their activities and make independent decisions as, for example, they choose their own food options. A broad range of easily accessible resources means that children are happily occupied. Staff promote an inclusive environment well. They talk to the children about their differences and display examples of children's varied languages around the rooms. Children have continuous access to an enclosed outdoor area and therefore enjoy the benefits of fresh air and exercise all year round. Staff take children to the wilder, woodland parts of the school grounds daily to experience active outdoor play. However, children's understanding of this different and stimulating environment is not fully exploited. This is because not all staff have the additional skills to help children think about risk and problem solving as, for example, they climb trees, or identifying the different animals and plants they encounter.

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

Staff implement the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements well. They understand how children learn through play, which helps them to plan and provide children with a broad range of enjoyable experiences. The owner has clear recruitment procedures that ensure all staff are safe and suitable for their roles. Staff benefit from regular meetings with their managers and have good opportunities to identify their own training needs. For example, some staff have extended their knowledge of children's additional needs, such as autism. Regular team meetings help staff to monitor the quality of children's learning experiences and, as a result, their needs are well-met. Close links with the school and frequent discussions with teachers ensures children benefit from continuity in their care and learning. Parents are well-informed about club activities and speak highly of staff. They complete regular questionnaires to inform staff about their views, which contributes well to effective evaluation of the provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY366636
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	857799
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	0
Number of children on roll	118
Name of provider	McEwan Childcare Ltd
Date of previous inspection	12 January 2009
Telephone number	07940 326 836

Funtimes registered in 2008 and operates from Stukeley Meadows Primary School in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. The club is open each weekday, from 7.30am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6pm during term-time, and from 7.30am to 6pm during school holidays. There are eight members of staff, of these, five hold childcare or playwork qualifications 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

