

The Village Kids Club

St. Lawrence C of E Primary School, Lower Church Road, Skellingthorpe, Lincoln,
Lincolnshire, LN6 5UZ



Inspection date	16 April 2015
Previous inspection date	3 February 2010

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		Outstanding	1
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

- The quality of teaching is good. Staff provide an exciting range of high-quality learning experiences for children. As a result, children are motivated, eager to explore and develop a curiosity for learning. This means children gain the key skills necessary to be ready for school.
- Children's emotional well-being is given the utmost priority by a truly caring staff team. Settling-in procedures are adapted and tailored to each child's individual needs and ensure they begin their learning experience confident and happy children.
- Parents spoken to at inspection are delighted with the progress their children make and praise the hard working staff. They feel involved and an important part of their children's learning as the staff work in partnership with them.
- Children's welfare is safeguarded by staff who are knowledgeable in child protection issues and are confident in correctly reporting those concerns.
- The provider is skilled at leading the staff team. She and the management team constantly monitor the quality of the teaching and value the importance of continual professional development for staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently enhance children's early writing skills in planned activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to enhance children's literacy development so they can practise and refine their writing skills, particularly during adult-led activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main playroom and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and registered person.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, the club's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day and interacted with children throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Sharon Waterfall

Inspection findings

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

The children are making good progress due to the highly skilled staff who are adaptive and able to develop children's play. They listen and assess, using the information to plan and provide activities and resources that really interest the children. For example, children with an interest in mud are able to dig in the outside mud kitchen. They make mud pies, plant seeds and look for worms. Children learn about the world around them as they discuss that seeds need the sun and rain to grow. They are observing how beans grow roots and shoots as they develop and become food they can eat. Children's language skills are developed well through this activity, as they are keen to talk about what they are doing. They share the knowledge they already have and talk about what they have been planting at home. Staff promote active learning, ensuring children have first-hand experiences and are able to explore and investigate for themselves. They support this further as they use challenging questions to help children to think through their ideas. Staff do not always make good use of adult-led activities to enhance children's literacy skills. For example, during a planting activity, staff write labels for children's names. This means children do not have enough opportunities to develop their writing skills.

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

The children's safety and welfare are paramount to the warm, caring and conscientious staff team. The settling-in visits are extremely flexible to meet the children's individual needs. Staff have established effective partnerships with parents. This contributes significantly in ensuring that children's emotional needs are fostered exceptionally well. The children chose to play indoors or outside depending on their style of learning or current interests. Both areas are stimulating and provide a wide range of opportunities and experiences. This means children have rich opportunities to practise their physical skills. The children are very aware of how to keep healthy as they grow seasonal vegetables and make their own foods. They are confident decision makers and their independence is highly encouraged, particularly in self-care skills. Children relish their role as helper and enjoy carrying out small responsibilities throughout the snack time routine.

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

The management team have a strong ethos and a drive for continual improvement. They effectively monitor the quality of the provision, identifying and making changes that benefit the children's care and education. Staff are well qualified and attend ongoing training, which has a very positive impact on children's educational development. The staff fulfil specific roles and responsibilities with enthusiasm and show a firm commitment to enabling the children to meet their full potential. Effective partnership working with parents, the local schools and a wide range of professional agencies, supports children in the move to school. Self-evaluation is embedded in practice with continual ideas and areas for improvements being identified. Children's progress is constantly monitored, any gaps are quickly identified and addressed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY283153
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	861133
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	101
Name of provider	Lynn Heath Graham
Date of previous inspection	3 February 2010
Telephone number	07986 225 701

The Village Kids Club was registered in 2004. The club employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including two with degrees. The club opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am until 6pm. The club offers a before and after school club and a pre-school provision within these hours. It provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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