

# The Village Care Club

St. Bedes Catholic Junior School, Appleton Village, WIDNES, Cheshire, WA8 6EL



## Inspection date

28 April 2015

Previous inspection date

14 May 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	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		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- Safeguarding procedures are weak and children's well-being is not protected. The manager and staff do not have up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding procedures, including procedures to follow if an allegation is made against a member of staff.
- The provider's recruitment procedures are not robust. Suitability checks are not carried out for some adults who work directly with children. This compromises children's safety.
- There are no staff at the setting who hold a current paediatric first-aid certificate. This is because the manager has failed to ensure that all staff keep their knowledge of first aid current.
- The manager has not implemented effective procedures to monitor staff performance through regular supervisions. As a result, the manager is not supporting staff to identify ways in which they can improve on their practice to enhance their professional development.
- Staff do not always gather sufficient information from parents on entry in order to effectively meet children's individual needs.

### It has the following strengths

- Children are provided with healthy and nutritious food choices at snack and meal times. Consequently, in this respect, children's good health is supported.
- Children experience a range of activities that enable them to make meaningful use of their time at the club. Consequently, they have fun and increase their friendships with others.
- Children are confident individuals who behave well. As a result, they play together and take turns to share resources.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- take immediate action to ensure there are sufficient staff on duty who hold a current paediatric first-aid certificate
- with immediate effect, take action to check the suitability of unvetted adults who work directly with children by obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, in order to ensure that children are kept safe
- ensure all staff, including the manager, update their knowledge of how to safeguard children, so that they remain alert to issues of concerns within a child's life or at home, and that they are familiar with how to report such concerns in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff
- ensure there are robust and effective systems in place for recruiting any new staff, so that all individuals who work directly with children are suitable to do so
- ensure all staff are effectively supervised and have the necessary support, training and skills to improve personal effectiveness, which is monitored so that all children benefit from consistently good-quality teaching and learning.

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

- develop ways to strengthen the relationship with parents from the beginning, so that children's individual needs are met.

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

- have effective systems to ensure that any person caring for children is suitable to work with children and includes obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that at least one person who is caring for children has an appropriate first-aid qualification (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- have effective systems to ensure that any person caring for children is suitable to work with children and includes obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that at least one person who is caring for children has an appropriate first-aid qualification (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector spoke to both children and staff and observed play and learning activities within the main environment and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading a number of comments.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector met with the manager and checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and the provider's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the premises.

### **Inspector**

Alison Regan

## Inspection findings

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

Staff have the appropriate qualifications to equip them with a good knowledge and understanding of how to support young children's learning. Staff plan a variety of activities, which are tailored to children's differing abilities. Staff regularly consult with the children to find out the type of activities they would like participate in, which ensures that the children feel valued and part of the setting. There is a lovely atmosphere in the setting as older children look after younger children and include them in their play. For example, when making models out of recycled materials, the older children assist the younger children to make choices as they select appropriate resources. As a result, children are learning to work together and are developing the skills and dispositions required for continued learning. Staff work in partnership with parents. They constantly share information with the parents about how their child has been in the club and at school. However, staff do not always find out information from parents at the beginning, to help them best support children during their time in the club.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is inadequate**

Staff are caring and welcoming. Children demonstrate they feel at ease with the adults working in the club. This helps promote children's emotional well-being. However, children develop a false sense of emotional security because they put their trust in adults whose suitability cannot be fully demonstrated. Staff listen and praise children at all times resulting in children's self-esteem and confidence being promoted. The premises are kept secure and staff maintain an accurate account of children present at all times. However, children's safety and well-being cannot be guaranteed as there is no adult present at the club with an up-to-date paediatric first-aid qualification. Staff encourage good hygiene habits, such as reminding the children to wash their hands before eating. Snacks include ham or cheese wraps and children's independence skills are encouraged as they help themselves to their chosen snacks. Children have access to fresh air each day. They develop their physical skills well outdoors as they run and play games with their friends.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate**

The manager's knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements is weak. For example, she does not know the action to take if an allegation is made against herself or a member of staff. In addition, staff have not recently had any safeguarding training to support them in identifying signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedure to follow should any concerns arise. There are no records in place to demonstrate that appropriate suitability checks have been carried out on some individuals working at the club. This means that children are not effectively safeguarded. Having said that, the procedures for the reporting of child protection and safeguarding concerns are in place and reflect the Local Safeguarding Children Board expectations. Not all individuals at the setting have completed a thorough recruitment process to ensure they are suitable. This means that recruitment procedures are weak, which compromises children's safety.

The manager does not monitor staff performance through the use of supervisions to identify ways to improve the quality of staff. As a result, there is no secure programme for professional development, through support and training, to improve the skills and knowledge of staff. The manager does not have rigorous methods in place for self-evaluation. Consequently, her ability to meet all requirements and effectively identify their strengths and priorities for improvement is reduced.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY436800
<b>Local authority</b>	Halton
<b>Inspection number</b>	853790
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out of school provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	36
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	52
<b>Name of provider</b>	The Village Care Club Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 May 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	07905252950

The Village Care Club was registered in 2011. It is privately owned and operates from St. Bedes Catholic Junior School. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday term time only. Sessions are 7.45am to 9am and 3pm to 5.30pm.

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