

S4YC-Out of school club (Brookhurst)



Brookhurst Primary School, Brookhurst Road, WIRRAL, Merseyside, CH63 0EH

Inspection date

18 May 2015

Previous inspection date

27 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Good	4 2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
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 does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Staff do not demonstrate a secure understanding of how to identify if a child is being abused. As a result, they do not demonstrate they have the required knowledge to protect children from harm.
- Staff, including leaders, have a poor understanding of the setting's policy regarding child protection. They are unclear on the roles and responsibilities for child protection at the club, including who to report concerns to with appropriate regard to confidentiality.
- Leaders' supervision of staff is poor. Where issues in knowledge or practice are identified, leaders fail to recognise these or take appropriate action to address them.
- Staff's knowledge and skills are not effectively supported by leaders, as they do not arrange training for staff which is targeted, based on their individual skills or gaps in knowledge.
- Younger children are not always encouraged to try more challenging aspects of activities independently.

It has the following strengths

- Staff demonstrate they have appropriate systems in place to communicate with the host school and children's parents. This provides them with the knowledge they need to promote children's interests and skills through play.
- Children have friendly relationships with staff, who know them well and show an interest in what children have been doing during the day.
- Children have access to a variety of resources and staff encourage them to make independent choices about what they would like to do. They enjoy their time at the club.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that staff fully understand the signs and symptoms of different kinds of abuse so that they can accurately identify concerns regarding the welfare of a child
- train staff to understand the procedures in place at the club, and ensure they are consistently followed, in order to improve their understanding of their responsibilities to correctly report any concerns regarding the welfare of a child
- implement a targeted training plan, based on supervision and observations of staff, in order to support them to develop their knowledge and skills, with particular regard to the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

- increase the opportunities for younger children to try more challenging activities by themselves, such as using scissors, before providing support.

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

- ensure that every person caring for children is alert to any indications that a child may be suffering from harm (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- train all staff on the written statement of procedures to be followed to safeguard children from abuse or neglect (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- provide, or secure the provision of, any training which is necessary to ensure that all staff have suitable skills to care for children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that every person caring for children is alert to any indications that a child may be suffering from harm (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector met with the leadership team to review the self-evaluation form and other operational documents.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor area and sampled children's records.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector considered the views of parents recorded by the club.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff and their qualifications, including paediatric first aid.

Inspector

Lauren Grocott

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy their time at club. Staff plan activities which some children find interesting and enjoy engaging in. For example, children use brightly coloured pens to shade and join the dots on pictures, which they proudly show to their key person. Staff understand that children may be tired after a day at school and therefore promote their engagement by allowing them to choose what they would like to do. Staff generally interact well with children, supporting them in their chosen activities. For example, children enjoy playing ball games and skipping with staff in the outdoor area. Younger children's skills and interests are shared with other providers, where appropriate. Staff have secure relationships with the host school. They exchange information about children's development and consider the ways they can help children to further their skills. However, when younger children find some aspects of activities challenging, staff are quick to complete these parts of activities for them. This means that children are not being encouraged to try more difficult tasks independently, in order to help them develop their skills further.

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

Staff demonstrate a poor understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. They have a weak understanding of child protection issues, which means that they do not demonstrate the ability to respond appropriately where abuse is suspected. They do not always follow the club's procedures to record incidents. However, they have some regard to children's safety in the physical environment. Staff and children conduct risk assessments for the areas being used by children, which helps them to understand what they can do to minimise some of the potential risks to their own safety. Children's physical health is appropriately promoted in other ways. Staff provide healthy foods and children can choose to partake in regular sports sessions and outdoor play. All children attending have a sufficient understanding of hygiene routines, which helps to reduce the risk of cross contamination. Children interact well with staff and other children. Staff support younger children to understand turn taking, for example, through the use of board games. They are clear about what they would like children to do, such as helping to tidy up. Children are generally confident, cooperative and well behaved.

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

Leadership is weak. Staff are not being monitored well enough. Where weaker areas of practice have been identified, insufficient support is given to help staff improve. Although leaders conduct supervision meetings on a termly basis, these are not sufficiently focused on identifying training needs. This means that staff do not have targeted support to improve their knowledge and understanding, for example, of child protection procedures. Although leaders have devised policies which correctly outline the local reporting procedures to refer concerns regarding children's welfare, staff do not have a good understanding of these. They demonstrate a poor understanding of their own roles within

the club with regard to these procedures. Leaders have a basic understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, however, these are not implemented well. Leaders have conducted a self-evaluation which, due to the breaches of the Early Years Register and Childcare Register requirements, is generally inaccurate. However, they do demonstrate a desire to improve. Staff are recruited appropriately and evidence about their suitability to work with children is obtained before they start working at the club. Parents report positively on the range of activities and experiences provided for their children at the club and have secure relationships with staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY429976
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	853047
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	57
Name of provider	S4YC Limited
Date of previous inspection	27 February 2012
Telephone number	01513344348

SY4C-Out of school club (Brookhurst) was registered in 2011. The club is one of ten owned and managed by a limited company. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications. The club opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 8.50am and 3.30pm until 6pm.

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