

Inspection date

15 June 2015

Previous inspection date

24 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff and managers have been through an unsettling time since the last inspection. This has had an impact on the continuous improvement of the club and, as a result, managers have not updated some procedures in line with changes to legal requirements.
- Managers do not formally check that staff continue to be suitable to work with children after their initial recruitment.
- The information staff record about children on admission does not contain details of who holds parental responsibility or which parent a child normally lives with.
- Staff training opportunities are narrow and are not targeted to individual development needs. This means there are variations in the quality of staff's interaction with children, particularly the way they manage children's behaviour.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy themselves at the club. They play and explore freely in the indoor and outdoor space with confidence and good levels of independence.
- Staff know children well and are skilful in engaging them in activities and routines, which also support specific aspects of their learning and development.
- Relationships are strong. Parents and children have high levels of trust in the long-serving and consistent staff team. They say children thoroughly enjoy coming.
- Partnerships with the school that children attend are strong and are used to a positive effect in meeting children's needs and in keeping them safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure staff are given a regular opportunity to disclose any convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands and warnings that relate to themselves, in order to make informed decisions about matters that may affect their ongoing suitability to work with children
- ensure that children's information records include details of the name and address of every parent and/or carer who is known to the provider, and information about any other person who has parental responsibility for the child and which parent and/or carer the child normally lives with.

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

- target a broader range of training opportunities to help each individual member of staff develop their knowledge and skills in order to have a consistently good impact on children
- develop consistency in staff's expectations of children and in the way they manage children's behaviour, focussing on helping children to understand consistent rules, boundaries and the potential impact of their actions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the designated room used by the club and in the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children. She spoke with parents and gained the views of others using the club's own records.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's records, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the provision and a range of other documentation, including policies and planning, evidence of staff qualifications and training.
- The inspector held meetings with one of the registered individuals who is also the manager of the club.

Inspector

Angela Rowley

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide children with a range of interesting play experiences with their independence and enjoyment at the core. They use the designated playroom to good effect by enabling children to access toys and equipment of their choice. For example, young children draw freely and creatively. They concentrate hard to follow patterns using small beads to create shaped pendants and they persist in problem solving using traditional table games. Consistent staff know the children very well. They speak with teachers in school so they know when children need additional support. Children's levels of confidence increase because they play a large part in organising the provision. For example, activities take account of children's own ideas as well as supporting particular skills. This supports their engagement in activities and with each other. For instance, children collaborate enthusiastically as they plan and coordinate how to build dens using sheets of fabric outside. The very strong opportunities children have to develop their independent thinking and learning, securely fosters the attitudes they need to make good learners in school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

Children quickly learn the routines of the club, which helps them to operate independently. However, staff are not always consistent in their expectations and sometimes they simply tell children what they must not do without offering them clear and positive explanations to support their learning. Children's sense of belonging at the club is strong. They develop warm relationships with the long-serving staff and they settle quickly. Children's views are valued and the relaxed staff enable the children to make the club their own. Staff understand children's social needs, and they support children to attend other clubs, such as brownies and ballet. Staff make good use of the playground to promote children's physical development. Children challenge themselves to balance as they walk along low walls and on the wooden fixed play equipment. They are provided with healthy snacks and they are encouraged to try healthy foods through interesting activities, such as tasting different varieties of apple.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

Procedures to ensure the safe organisation of the provision are not always secure. For example, while staff are suitably checked when they are recruited, managers do not use any other ways to check for any changes which may affect staff's ongoing suitability. Additionally, while the manager knows details of the children and families extremely well, records do not contain details about who has parental responsibility or of children's residence arrangements, necessary for good safeguarding practice. The manager acknowledges the gaps in provision and is keen to use support and guidance to drive future improvement. She suitably prioritises staff training, such as for first aid, food hygiene and fire marshalling. This helps keep children safe. Over half the staff hold a suitable qualification, although training opportunities to enhance all staff's knowledge and to support them in providing consistently good quality provision, are currently limited.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY271777
Local authority	Bury
Inspection number	856118
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 11
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	56
Name of provider	Funtastic Club Limited
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2011
Telephone number	07709 267 367

Funtastic was registered in 2003 and is operated by Funtastic Club Limited. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 3.10pm until 5.45pm.

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