Polehampton ASC

Polehampton CE Junior School, Kibblewhite Crescent, Twyford, READING, RG10 9AX



Inspection date2 July 2015
Previous inspection date
4 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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:

- The provider fails to keep a complete record of children's hours of attendance. This is a breach of a statutory requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage and also the Childcare Register requirements.
- The process for self-evaluation has led to improvements since the last inspection. However, management has not been rigorous enough in their evaluation to identify the failure to keep all documentation required for the safe management of the provision.
- Staff do not always share a lot of information with teachers at the school children attend, so they cannot be sure that the club complements the early years experiences children have elsewhere.

It has the following strengths

- There is a good range of activities both inside and outdoors that offer children interesting and challenging experiences. Staff play and communicate well with the children, adding to children's enjoyable play experiences.
- Children's behaviour is very good. Older children are very patient with younger children and this creates a very positive atmosphere, which benefits everyone.
- The provider and staff demonstrate a secure understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. Regular training for staff ensures that they understand child protection procedures and are suitably qualified in first aid.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

ensure the daily record of attendance contains the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their actual hours of attendance.

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

- share more useful information with the school children attending to enhance partnership working and to further improve outcomes for children
- make better use of ongoing self-evaluation to identify areas of practice that need improving.

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

- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector met the headteacher of the junior school and held a meeting with the manager and a representative from the local authority.
- The inspector spoke to some parents and children to gather their views on the club.

Inspector

Melissa Cox

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy the time they spend at the club. Staff know them well and plan fun activities for them to enjoy after the long school day. Children have opportunities to build on the skills they have developed at school. Staff provide sufficient challenge for children to ensure they are well occupied. Children enjoy writing, drawing and building with construction blocks, and enthusiastically engage in self-chosen arts and crafts. During team games and activities outside, children learn to work collaboratively, to follow instructions and confidently express their ideas. Staff are well deployed and engage in children's play. They encourage children's communication and language skills well. Staff have developed positive relationships with the feeder school and share some useful information to promote consistency in the care children receive. Parents speak highly of the club and feel their children are safe and settled.

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

Children arrive at the club happy and confident, but because staff do not accurately record children's attendance, their well-being cannot be assured. Children join in with play activities and form good relationships with other children and staff. They play cooperatively and enjoy friendships across year groups. Children learn about the benefits of healthy diets. Children develop good levels of independence as they choose and prepare their snack from the wide range of foods on offer. Children learn to take regular drinks and stay in the shade on hot days to promote their good health. They learn about road safety, as they walk from the infant school to the junior school. Staff are vigilant in their supervision of the children, particularly when they play outdoors. Outside, children engage in energetic and fun activities, such as water play and football.

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

Despite a sound understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements, the provider has failed to keep accurate attendance records. Staff do not record the times the youngest children arrive and also when some older children depart. However, other requirements for the safe management of the provision are met well. The provider and staff demonstrate a good understanding of the club's whistleblowing procedures and know where to go if they are concerned about a child's welfare. Staff implement well-considered policies and procedures to help ensure children are provided with a safe and secure environment. Systems for recruitment are robust and ongoing suitability checks of the staff help to keep children safe. The manager monitors staff practice and effectively mentors new staff. Training needs are identified to support staff in their professional development. Ongoing reflective practice and self-evaluation has addressed the actions set at the last inspection and ensures a good capacity for further improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY467005

Local authority Wokingham

Inspection number 1009301

Type of provisionOut of school provision

Registration category Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 4 - 8

Total number of places 50

Number of children on roll 10

Name of provider Stephanie Benson

Date of previous inspection 4 March 2015

Telephone number 07769 881900

Polehampton After School Club registered in 2013. It is situated in Polehampton Junior School in Twyford, Berkshire. The club operates each weekday from 7.45am to 8.45am, and 3.15pm to 6pm, during term time only. The club employs 13 staff; of these, two staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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.

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