

St Thomas Wasps

St. Thomas C of E Primary School, Parkgate Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington, WA4 2AP



Inspection date	8 July 2015
Previous inspection date	5 May 2011

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		Good	2
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

- Children enjoy their time at the club. Staff use observations of children and information from their teachers to provide activities which children find enjoyable.
- Children's needs are known and met effectively by staff who proactively work in partnership with parents and other providers where appropriate.
- Children have good relationships with staff. The key-person system supports children's attachments with staff and promotes their emotional well-being.
- Children have numerous opportunities to develop independence throughout their time at the club. This makes a positive contribution to the development of skills which prepare them well for school.
- Staff have a good understanding of potential indicators of abuse, and how to report their concerns to the correct local agencies.
- Staff's existing knowledge and skills are enhanced by a targeted and ongoing programme of professional development.
- The provider has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and systems in place to ensure these are met. This makes a positive contribution to children's well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make best use of opportunities to promote cooperation between older and younger children.
- Staff do not always organise morning routines to meet the needs of all children in a highly effective way.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the strategies to promote more effective cooperation between older and younger children
- revise the morning routines so that staff have more time to interact and socialise with children as they come into the club.

Inspection activities

- The inspector met with the management team to review their self-evaluation form and operational documentation.
- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor areas, and jointly evaluated an activity with the provider.
- The inspector considered the views of both parents and children spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed children's learning records and evidence of staff suitability and their qualifications.
- The inspector spoke with staff at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Lauren Grocott

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy their time at the club. They have opportunities to make choices about what they would like to do which promotes their engagement. Experienced and well-qualified staff interact well with children, planning activities that children find interesting. They make good use of opportunities to support children to develop skills in preparation for school. Parents are kept well informed of children's achievements and interests during their time at the club, and are offered opportunities to review children's scrapbooks. Children have a sense of pride in their work which is displayed in their scrapbooks or taken home. They enjoy playing imaginatively in tents in the outdoor area and develop their physical skills during ball games. They relax after a busy day by playing games on electronic consoles or reading books on mats in the outdoor area. Staff use a flexible approach in order to respond to children's emerging interests.

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

Staff acknowledge that children may prefer to relax during the afternoon and provide welcoming spaces for them to do so. They create a vibrant and accessible learning environment, in order to help children make choices. Children show a good understanding of healthy lifestyles as they select from a range of healthy snacks and enjoy engaging in physical exercise outdoors. Staff give clear messages to children about the rules of the club. As a result, children behave well. However, sometimes staff miss opportunities to help older and younger children interact cooperatively, particularly during activities. Despite this, children show care and consideration for others which promotes their feelings of self-esteem and belonging. Staff have few opportunities to interact and socialise with children during the morning sessions due to the organisation of routines. Children's independence is well supported through both play and the routines of the day. They are given small roles and responsibilities within the club, further supporting their self-esteem.

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

Leadership is good as the provider has a sound understanding of her responsibilities with regard to the Early Years Foundation Stage. Leaders ensure that recruitment and vetting procedures are robust. Children are kept safe from harm as staff are monitored to ensure the quality of their practice is good and they continue to be suitable for their roles. Staff regularly conduct risk assessments of the indoor and outdoor environments, and are alert to any potential hazards. This enables them to minimise risks effectively. Parents, staff and children are involved in evaluating the effectiveness of the setting as part of the self-evaluation process. The senior leadership team have also implemented an internal auditing system to help staff identify any further areas for improvement. The manager is passionate and keen to continue making improvements to the club. Her self-evaluation process ensures that all children have opportunities to talk about any concerns and make suggestions to further improve the club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY377600
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	858435
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	39
Name of provider	Woolston Wasps Link Club Ltd
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2011
Telephone number	01925 818689

St Thomas Wasps was registered in 2008 and operates from within St. Thomas Church of England Primary School in Stockton Heath, Warrington. The club is one of 15 settings owned and managed by a limited company. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, all hold appropriate early years qualifications or are working towards them. The club opens from Monday to Friday in term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 9am and 3pm until 6pm.

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