

Halewood Youth Centre, Junior Club and Playscheme



Halewood Youth In Community Centre, Lichfield Road, Halewood, Knowsley,
Merseyside, L26 1TT

Inspection date	14 July 2015
Previous inspection date	29 January 2009

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 behave well and form strong friendships. They play well together, help each other and share equipment.
- Staff support children well. They use their knowledge of individual children's interests and needs to plan a wide range of activities and experiences which motivate and challenge them to learn.
- Relationships between staff and children are good. Staff talk to children about their school day and home life. As a result, children are emotionally secure, happy and settled.
- Staff have a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures and effectively promote children's safety and well-being. They undertake daily risk assessments to ensure that the environment remains safe and secure at all times.
- Partnership working with parents, feeder schools and the local community is strong. Information is shared with parents and feeder schools to support children's care needs and welfare. Members of the local community regularly take part in activities and outings organised by the club.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes staff do too much for children during play and everyday activities.
- Opportunities for staff to share best practice with each other have not been fully developed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to help themselves and make choices during their play and everyday activities
- develop further opportunities for staff to learn from each other and share best practice to help raise the quality of provision to the highest standard.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises with a member of staff.
- The inspector observed play and learning activities in the main playrooms and outdoor area.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.

Inspector

Susan Hopper

Inspection findings

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

Staff use their knowledge of how children learn to plan interesting activities and experiences that children enjoy. They create stimulating play areas where children can engage in role play. Staff engage in activities with children, playing word games and sharing drawing activities. They talk to children about the work of the club and encourage them to contribute ideas. This helps children to develop their speaking and listening skills. Children have opportunities to practise their creative skills in painting activities. However, sometimes staff do too much for children and they are not encouraged to make independent choices, for example, about resources. Children are involved in planting and growing flowers and vegetables in the outdoor garden area.

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

The club environment is warm and welcoming. Children's work is displayed in all the play areas, which provides them with a sense of ownership and belonging. Well-planned settling-in procedures ensure that children's individual needs and interests are known. Parents are kept well informed about the work of the club and the activities that their children have been involved in. The key-person system is well established and younger children benefit from close monitoring by their key person. As a result, children's individual needs are well met. Children's health and physical well-being are well supported. They are provided with healthy snacks and drinks. Children are encouraged to wash their hands before eating and to clear the tables at the end of snack time. However, there are other missed opportunities during these routine activities, to get children more independently involved in tasks. They have daily opportunities to play outside in the extensive garden and play area. Staff supervise children well as they challenge themselves on the outdoor play equipment. Children have regular opportunities to play team and ball games in the sports hall, which help them to develop their understanding of teamwork and the rules of games.

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

The enthusiastic and committed management team have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The recruitment procedure is robust and all staff members have undergone suitability checks to work with children. Staff are qualified and have completed recent safeguarding training. All staff receive coaching and support during supervision meetings. However, recently appointed members of staff have fewer opportunities to learn from experienced staff. The manager is committed to developing and improving the club. He meets weekly with staff to review the work of the club and plan activities. There are effective systems in place to support self-evaluation practices, which include the views of staff, parents, children and members of the local community. Parents spoken to on the day of the inspection are very happy with the care and activities provided for children, and feel that children are safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313110
Local authority	Knowsley
Inspection number	868128
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	91
Name of provider	Halewood Youth In Community Centre Committee
Date of previous inspection	29 January 2009
Telephone number	0151 486 2865

Halewood Youth Centre, Junior Club and Playscheme was registered in 1996. The setting employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3, two hold appropriate childcare and playwork qualifications at level 2, and one is a qualified sports coach. The setting opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 3.15pm until 5.45pm during term time and from 11am until 3pm during school holidays. The setting supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language.

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