

# Pitstop, The - Melton out of School Club

Melton CP School, Melton Road, Melton, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1PG

## Inspection date

27 July 2015

Previous inspection date

18 August 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 <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>           |                      |                      |   |

## Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The registered provider has failed to inform Ofsted of changes to its legal entity within the required timescale. The club was run by a committee, but this changed to a community interest company earlier this year.
- The key-person system in place is not secure enough to ensure that children's care needs are effectively identified and supported.
- Self-evaluation is not robust enough to identify the club's strengths and areas for improvement. Parents, children and others have limited opportunities to feed into the club's self-evaluation process to contribute towards future improvements.

### It has the following strengths

- Children are busy and active during their day at the club. They participate in a good range of activities which support their learning.
- Children are appropriately protected from harm because practitioners regularly update their safeguarding knowledge through appropriate training courses. Effective risk assessments and training enable practitioners to keep a sharp focus on ensuring that more challenging activities are delivered safely.
- Parents are kept informed of their children's day through a verbal feedback on collection. The manager provides parents with regular newsletters to ensure they are aware of any changes or future events.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- ensure each child is assigned a key person to help to tailor their care to meet their individual needs.

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

- improve self-evaluation to ensure that it is effective in identifying the setting's strengths and areas for improvement, and involve parents, children and others in this process.

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

- inform Ofsted of changes to the nominated person of a childcare provision (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).
- inform Ofsted of changes to the nominated person of a childcare provision (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

## **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed activities in the school hall and the outside areas.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, the supervisor and practitioners at appropriate times throughout the inspection. She also spoke to children.
- The inspector looked at records, including children's details, accident and medication records, risk assessments, written policies and a selection of other relevant documentation.
- The inspector saw evidence of the checks used to assess the suitability of practitioners and their qualifications.
- The inspector held a joint observation with the manager to review the organisation of activities.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.

### **Inspector**

Lynn Hughes

## Inspection findings

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

Children thoroughly enjoy their experiences at the club. They are keen and active participants who engage in a wide range of adult-led activities as well as guiding their own play. For example, some help to make dough for the other children. The activity involves them weighing ingredients, mixing and deciding what colour to make the dough. The finished result of very red, glittery and ginger-smelling dough is then enjoyed by the rest of the children. Practitioners are on hand to support children at all times and use clear questioning skills and explanations to ensure children benefit from the activities. Children are able to choose whether they play indoors or outdoors. They are provided with resources and activities that enable them to enjoy all areas of play and learning in both spaces. Weekly outings and trips form part of the club's theme for the week. For example, a trip to the zoo provides scope for good creative activities, such as painting animals and making models.

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

Children generally settle well in the club as practitioners support them and help them to establish relationships. However, there is currently no secure key-person system in place. This means that children as young as two years of age do not have a special person to bond with. Children behave well during their day at the club. They follow practitioners' directions and quickly learn the simple rules. These mostly involve being kind towards each other and taking turns. Practitioners act as good role models and frequently use praise and encouragement to enhance children's self-confidence. Practitioners follow the club's well-considered risk assessments and educate children on keeping safe. This enables older children to take challenging risks, such as climbing trees safely. Children learn about keeping healthy through activities and discussions with adults. Good outdoor provision ensures children's physical well-being is effectively promoted.

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

The management committee which previously ran this club became a community interest company in March 2015. Ofsted have only recently been informed of this change of legal entity. The change will require a new application and registration. The manager supports her team of practitioners well, providing them with regular supervision and coaching. She uses the pre-summer holiday scheme meeting to review practitioners' qualifications, first aid and safeguarding knowledge. If she feels there are any gaps in practitioners' expertise, she seeks appropriate training to close them. The club uses informal systems for reviewing the success of the provision; however, self-evaluation is not yet robust enough to identify areas for improvement or involve parents and others in the process.

## Setting details

|                                    |                                      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | EY255294                             |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Suffolk                              |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 860412                               |
| <b>Type of provision</b>           | Out of school provision              |
| <b>Registration category</b>       | Childcare - Non-Domestic             |
| <b>Age range of children</b>       | 2 - 17                               |
| <b>Total number of places</b>      | 30                                   |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 50                                   |
| <b>Name of provider</b>            | Pitstop Out of School Club Committee |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 18 August 2011                       |
| <b>Telephone number</b>            | 07732681125                          |

Pitstop, The - Melton out of School Club was registered in 2003. The club employs 18 members of childcare staff, 12 of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The club opens Monday to Friday for four weeks of the summer holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

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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