

Olivers Lodge-Saffron Walden



St. Marys Primary School, Castle Street, SAFFRON WALDEN, Essex, CB10 1BQ

Inspection date 3 August 2015
Previous inspection date 10 March 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 have good opportunities to make their own choices in play. As a result, they approach their play with enthusiasm and they are kept busy and purposefully occupied throughout the session.
- Strong partnerships exist between the schools, parents and club staff. The staff have implemented a communication book to enable all settings and parents to share information.
- Staff supervise children diligently at all times. They use clear explanations to promote children's personal safety and remind them about why they should not run while indoors to protect them from harm.
- Safeguarding procedures are robust and all staff have a very clear understanding of their responsibility to protect children from harm.
- The leadership and management team show a strong commitment to continually improve their practice. There are effective systems in place to evaluate all aspects of the provision and continually make improvements to benefit children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, some of the outdoor play areas are not well resourced and appealing to the children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the presentation of the outdoor play areas so that they are consistently stimulating, well resourced and welcoming to the children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play indoors and outside.
- The inspector sampled documents, including relevant policies and procedures.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider about the setting's evaluation processes.
- The inspector gathered the views of parents through written documents.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

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

Children have fun and enjoy their time at the holiday club. Staff provide interesting activities that help complement the skills and knowledge that children develop at school. They ensure that children have plenty of opportunities to play as they wish. Children are free to make their own choices and lead their own activities. Children benefit from engaging in organised or self-chosen, group activities and show a keen interest in board games. Staff create a cosy book area for children, which they enjoy using to sit and look at books independently or with friends. Children draw pictures with precise detail and take pride when showing their drawings to adults. Staff communicate well with children. They ask a range of questions to encourage children to think and solve their own problems.

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

An effective key-person system is in place and, as a result, staff know children well. This means they understand how to meet children's individual needs. Children enjoy outdoor play, particularly when they take part in organised games and races. They demonstrate a strong team spirit as they cheer and support their team. The older children support the younger ones by guiding them through the obstacle course before encouraging them to have a go themselves. However, at times, the outdoor play areas are not always well resourced and welcoming as some toys are incomplete and not replenished regularly. Staff encourage children's health by ensuring they bring a healthy packed lunch. They ensure that drinks are always available especially after taking part in sport as children learn to respond to their bodily needs. Staff provide a range of different planned activities and outings through the school holidays. Parents comment positively about the impact these have on their children's enjoyment of being at the club, especially through the summer.

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

The managers and staff team have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There is a wide range of procedures and policies to support children's good health, safety and well-being that staff implement well. All staff are qualified in paediatric first aid. Staff are knowledgeable about how to protect children and the course of action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The management and staff team effectively monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision using a variety of well-established methods. For example, they provide questionnaires for children and parents to share their opinions and views. The managers implement robust vetting procedures to ensure children are cared for by suitable adults. Staff have effective and regular supervisions which enable them to continually improve their own already good practice. The manager and staff attend training courses and access further training online. They ensure the courses are relevant to support their professional development and to meet the needs of all the children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY396540
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	995523
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	47
Name of provider	Olivers Lodge Limited
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2011
Telephone number	01799 523 384

Olivers Lodge-Saffron Walden was registered in 2009. The club is open from 7.30am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm during school term times, and from 8am until 6pm during school holidays. The club employs three members of staff. Of these, two hold relevant early years qualifications.

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