

Woodlands Playscheme

Woodlands County Primary School, Hunt Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN10 4BQ



Inspection date

6 August 2015

Previous inspection date

6 August 2012

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		Requires improvement	3
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:

- Staff do not always follow effective risk assessment procedures to identify and minimise all possible hazards. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register requirements.
- Not all staff have a clear understanding of how to implement fully effective procedures for the collection of children.
- Staff do not work consistently with parents to share information with them about their children's experiences and activities. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register requirements.
- The key-person system does not work as well as it could, to ensure staff fully engage the youngest children in activities and positive interactions.
- The management team is not always able to identify and resolve weaknesses in the provision to raise standards for children.

It has the following strengths

- Overall, children enjoy their time at the club. They explore the range of activities and have opportunities to benefit from creative and physical play.
- Staff provide a welcoming and relaxed environment. As a result, most children feel happy and secure at the club.
- Staff encourage children's independence and free choice. They get to know children's interests and provide activities to promote these.
- The management has processes in place to share information with schools.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure risk assessments are used effectively to help identify all possible hazards to children
- ensure all staff have a clear understanding of the procedures for the collection of children
- improve the two-way flow of information with all parents to ensure that parents are aware of their children's activities and experiences.

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

- strengthen the key-person system so younger children are fully engaged in activities and interactions with staff
- review self-evaluation procedures to identify and address weaknesses in the provision and improve outcomes for children.

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

- ensure risk assessments are used effectively to help identify all possible hazards for children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure parents are informed about the activities children will undertake (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure risk assessments are used effectively to help identify all possible hazards for children (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure parents are informed about the activities children will undertake (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in activities indoors and in the outdoor play areas.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled documents including policies, procedures and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Anna Kersley

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

Overall, children come into the club happily and quickly choose an activity to do. Staff provide designated areas to support children's creative play and quiet activities, such as books and construction blocks. However, younger children sometimes lack motivation later in the session. Although these children have a key person, staff do not always identify children's changing needs to promote their full participation and positive interactions throughout the day. Staff talk to children during activities, as they make stick puppets or play football. They listen to children attentively and respond to what they say. This helps children to be confident communicators. Staff invite children to plan activities, such as a talent show. Children enjoy practising for their show and using the range of craft resources to make posters to invite parents. Sometimes, staff rely too heavily on children to share day-to-day information with their parents. This means that there are times that some parents are not aware of what their children have been doing during their time at the club.

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

Children choose freely from a range of toys and resources. They enjoy playing in the spacious outdoor areas every day. Staff promote children's health and well-being through healthy routines such as hand washing and a broad range of opportunities for physical activities. They teach children about how to stay safe through regular reminders of how to avoid accidents, such as not running indoors. This helps children to understand and behave in accordance with the club's rules. Staff help to protect children from harm. Staff have a secure knowledge of what to do if they have concerns about a child. However, not all staff have a clear understanding of how to fully implement thorough procedures when children are collected. Management responds quickly to these concerns and implements measures to resolve any potential risk to children.

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

The management team does not always reflect on the provision effectively to identify all areas for development. As a result, it has not identified all weaknesses, particularly in relation to risk assessment, to ensure it minimises all potential hazards at the club. However, this does not currently have a significant impact on children, as there is usually a good level of staff supervision. The team has all the legal documentation to promote children's welfare, which it makes available for visitors and parents. The management ensures that all staff go through recruitment procedures, engage in regular supervisions and attend all mandatory training before they start at the club. This ensures that all staff are suitable for their roles and clear about their responsibilities to safeguard children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127784
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	986612
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	26
Name of provider	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
Date of previous inspection	6 August 2012
Telephone number	01732 355577

Woodlands Playscheme opened in 1993. It operates from Woodlands County Primary School in Tonbridge, Kent. The setting is open each weekday from 9am to 1pm during three weeks of the school summer holidays. A team of 10 part-time staff are employed and four of them hold early years qualifications to level 3.

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