

Schools Out Club

Pondhu School, Penwinnick Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5DS



Inspection date

13 August 2015

Previous inspection date

13 September 2010

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 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:

- Management appropriately identify risks at the premises and have procedures to keep children safe. Staff supervise children well; however, management do not effectively monitor and manage some arrangements effectively. This means, at times, unauthorised persons can enter the premises unnoticed.
- The provider does not keep records of staff suitability checks accessible and available for inspection. This is also a breach to the Childcare Register requirements.
- Although staff set out resources that children want to play with, they do not always organise this effectively, so that children are fully engaged in activities at all times, for example, following trips and outings. This means some children become restless.

It has the following strengths

- Staff provide a range of activities based on children's interests which they enjoy. As a result, children are eager to join in, play well together and enjoy the planned trips.
- The management team work closely with the local schools and with other agencies, such as the local authority, which ensures staff meet individual children's needs well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the monitoring and management of potential risks, to ensure unauthorised persons cannot enter the premises
- ensure staff suitability records are accessible and available at inspection.

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

- review the organisation of activities so that children are fully engaged at all times.

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

- ensure that no one can enter the premises without the knowledge of a person who is caring for children on the premises (applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that no one can enter the premises without the knowledge of a person who is caring for children on the premises (applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff's interaction.
- The inspector talked with the children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents including the fire evacuation log, children and staff records, and accident and medication records.
- The inspector took into account views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Sara Frost

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy, settled and enjoy attending the club. The well-qualified staff team plan themed weeks and activities based on children's ideas and interests. Each week during the holidays, they plan a trip. For example, animal week includes a visit to a local animal sanctuary, where children learn about various animals and their habitats. Staff provide opportunities and support children to experience different sensory play as they hunt for animals in jelly, go bug hunting and make animal biscuits. Staff help children share and take turns, particularly when playing group games. Children of all ages enjoyed the team games, which support their understanding of number and counting. Although other resources provide options for children to make choices in play, most prefer to join in with the interesting range of group games. Children attend various schools. The club provides them with opportunities to widen their circle of friends, which extends their social skills.

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

Managers and staff are warm and friendly, welcoming children and parents as they enter. This means children are confident and form close relationships with them. Staff are good role models and support children in their behaviour and social skills. They actively praise children, which boosts their confidence and self-esteem. Staff effectively use opportunities to promote and support children's health, communication and language skills, and ask questions to extend children's thinking and provide explanations to extend their learning. They discuss hygienic practices when feeding animals and talk about why they do this. There are clear written risk assessments for outings and the premises, although the management do not effectively monitor and oversee all of these effectively.

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

The management team carry out staff supervision and support their training to help safeguard children and promote children's well-being. All staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding procedures to follow should a child be at risk of harm. Regular staff meetings help the team to review planning and the range of activities they provide, to help them make changes to practice and their skills. Management do not monitor the risk assessment processes closely enough to ensure unauthorised persons cannot access the premises unnoticed, and they do not ensure staff suitability records are accessible and available for inspection. Following the last inspection, staff now ensure children take part in regular fire evacuations so they are familiar with the process.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY249230
Local authority	Cornwall
Inspection number	837182
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	Yvonne Smith
Date of previous inspection	13 September 2010
Telephone number	07774 906078

Schools Out Club is one of two privately owned out of school provisions. It registered in 2002 and they operate from Pondhu Primary School in St Austell, Cornwall. The club is open five days a week from 7am to 8.45am, and from 3pm to 6.30pm during term times. On Saturdays and school holidays it is open from 7am to 6.30pm. The club employs 11 members of staff, nine of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications between levels 2 and 4.

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