

Hamstead After School Club Committee



Tanhouse Avenue, Great Barr, Birmingham, West Midlands, B43 5AS

Inspection date 20 August 2015
Previous inspection date 16 November 2010

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		Outstanding	1
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

- Staff organise interesting and fun games and activities for children. These complement their previous learning and prepare them well for the next stage in their learning, including school.
- Children are developing excellent personal and social skills, which are supported well by staff. Children play well together in groups and work together to make things.
- Children are supported to make good progress in their learning. The club and school discuss children's targets to ensure that any gaps in their learning are closed rapidly.
- Children are extremely well behaved. They tidy up toys and equipment when asked, and know how to behave because staff make their expectations clear.
- Staff have access to a range of training opportunities, including child protection training. This means staff are able to protect children from possible abuse or neglect.
- Staff are well qualified and very experienced. They use their skills to effectively capture children's ideas and use these in the planning of activities.
- The club is very welcoming, staff are nurturing and children have fantastic relationships with them. Children settle very quickly as staff promote their confidence and self-esteem.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The views of children and the management committee have not yet been fully sought in the evaluation of the club.
- Staff performance is not always promoted fully as supervision arrangements do not evaluate the quality of their practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the evaluation of the club by seeking the views of children and members of the management committee, in order to set challenging targets for further improvement
- enhance the arrangements for the supervision of staff, by evaluating their practice to identify their strengths and areas for personal development, so that children benefit from a continually improving provision.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main rooms and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at samples of children's records, learning documentation, policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children.
- The inspector spoke to staff throughout the inspection and held a meeting with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their written comments provided to the club.

Inspector

Scott Oliver Thomas

Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a variety of activities and experiences that build on children's learning from school and other early years settings. Staff plan activities based on children's interests and taking into account their ideas. This means children are developing a range of skills for their future learning. Staff use the teaching methods from school and nursery to further enhance children's development. Children have free access to a wide range of toys, games and resources. These help them to independently choose what they want to do. Staff give parents detailed handovers at the end of the session, which gives parents an understanding of their child's learning. This is enhanced as staff share photographs and observations of children's progress with parents to give them a detailed overview across all settings.

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

The environment is safe and welcoming. Children have positive relationships with all staff, as some work in the school where children attend. The key-person system is very effective and parents are aware of their child's named key person. Staff know the youngest children who attend very well and they have formed fantastic bonds. Children are developing outstanding physical skills as they use the outdoor equipment, such as the balancing boards and sports field. This helps to keep them fit. Children's understanding of keeping healthy is promoted fully by staff. Staff provide healthy meals and snacks and teach children the importance of a balanced diet. They also work with parents to encourage them to provide healthy lunchboxes. Staff promote children's social skills skilfully. They are learning how to celebrate each other's differences and take turns independently. Children make smooth transitions from school and nursery into the club, supported by welcoming staff. Staff take every opportunity for children to learn about their community and the wider world. They go on regular trips to local places and have regular visitors to the club.

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

The manager has a secure understanding of how to support children's development and how to keep them safe. There are systems in place to review risks in the environment. The manager ensures all children are making good progress in their learning and development. This is because she promotes good communication between the club and staff from the host school and nursery. The self-evaluation procedures are developing well; they now take into account the views of staff and parents. However, the views of the management committee and children are not yet included. In addition, the systems for evaluating the effectiveness of staff practice are not fully robust. Therefore, staff do not always have specific targets for improving their own practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	268327
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	867203
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	34
Name of provider	Hamstead After School Club Committee
Date of previous inspection	16 November 2010
Telephone number	0121 357 8397

Hamstead After School Club was registered in 2001 and operates from within the grounds of the host school. The club employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, including one working towards a degree in Early Years. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am to 8.40am and 3.20pm to 6pm Monday to Thursday, and 7.30am to 8.40am and 3.20pm to 5.30pm on a Friday. It opens in school holidays from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, except for one week at Christmas and one week in summer.

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