

# Fairways Childcare Centre

The Old Schoolrooms, The Street, Stisted, Braintree, Essex, CM77 8AN



## Inspection date

18 August 2015

Previous inspection date

1 June 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		Good	2
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:

- Recorded evidence to demonstrate the procedures for the safe recruitment of staff was not available on the day of inspection.
- Staff do not always provide parents with detailed information on how to precisely support children's learning at home so that children make the best progress.
- Staff do not use every available opportunity to fully promote children's awareness of healthy eating.

### It has the following strengths

- Well-qualified staff have a secure understanding of the learning and development requirements. The teaching is good and staff offer stimulating activities to build on children's interests. As a result, children develop a positive attitude towards learning in readiness for school.
- Children are developing good speech and language skills. They engage in purposeful discussions with staff to share their experiences from home and benefit from well-planned activities that focus on identified gaps in their learning.
- The key-person system is used effectively to promote children's well-being. Staff value the detailed information that parents provide when children start. They use this to adapt the environment and support children's individual care needs and learning styles. In addition, staff liaise with the local schools that children move on to. This supports continuous learning for each child.
- All staff have received child protection training and hold a valid first-aid qualification. This ensures that they are aware of the relevant action to take to promote children's welfare.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that the records of information gathered on vetting processes for staff recruitment and suitability are available for inspection at all times.

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

- focus more frequently and precisely on ways to include parents in extending their children's learning at home
- make better use of opportunities to develop children's awareness of healthy eating, extending their growing understanding of leading a healthy lifestyle.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors, outside and during the lunch and snack time routines.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the provider and held discussions with the provider and all other members of staff.
- The inspector viewed documentation, including a self-evaluation form, policies, children's learning journals, staff files and registers.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions on the day and a large selection of recently completed questionnaires.
- The inspector saw some evidence of the qualifications and suitability of staff working with children and other documentation in relation to the safeguarding and welfare requirements.

## Inspector

Rachel Pepper

## Inspection findings

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

Staff provide a well-balanced activity programme to cover all areas of learning. They have high expectations of children and encourage them to persevere with manageable tasks. Staff organise the setting well. This allows children to make choices in their play, both indoors and outside in all weathers. They welcome children's suggestions and facilitate their ideas for spontaneous themes. For example, children design treasure maps and show pride as they build a compass. Children demonstrate good mathematical skills. For example, they understand mathematical terms, such as big and little, and select a small number of objects from a group when asked. Staff refer to approved childcare guidance to complete precise assessments of children. They use children's next steps in learning to inform their weekly plans and support children's good progress. This detailed information is shared at regular meetings with parents throughout the year. However, staff do not always fully involve parents frequently in supporting children's learning at home.

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

Children relish their time at the setting and have developed affectionate attachments to the staff that take care of them. They cuddle in as they share stories of interest and gently style a staff member's hair during group time. Staff act as good role models and provide children with clear explanations of expected behaviour. Therefore, children are polite and play well alongside others. Children gain an awareness of cultural traditions and they view various events at the local church. Children demonstrate good independence skills and eagerly carry out small tasks that are appropriate for their ages. For example, they serve their own nutritious snacks and show control as they pour drinks from jugs. However, staff do not always make the best use of such times to discuss the benefits of a healthy diet and lifestyle. Children have frequent outdoor learning opportunities to promote their physical health. They move confidently as they manage two-wheeled scooters with skill.

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

The provider aspires to improve and has successfully addressed both of her previous recommendations. She regularly evaluates her practice and reviews children's overall progress to devise future plans, including extending resources to support children's understanding of the world and securing the position of an Early Years Teacher. The provider generally has an appropriate understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She explains in detail the procedures she follows for the safe recruitment of staff. This includes completing the required vetting processes. On the day of inspection, Disclosure and Barring Service checks were seen for all staff. However, further records to demonstrate that the full recruitment procedures are undertaken were not available for inspection. The impact on children's safety and well-being is minimal as the stable staff team is well established and staff are closely monitored. The provider completes ongoing staff supervisions. This ensures that all staff feel valued in their role and have regular training opportunities to maintain their good quality of teaching.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY356603
<b>Local authority</b>	Essex
<b>Inspection number</b>	863459
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Registration category</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	34
<b>Name of provider</b>	Fairways Childcare Centre Limited
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	1 June 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01376 339477

Fairways Childcare Centre was registered in 2007 and is privately owned and managed. It is sited in Stisted in Braintree. The nursery employs six members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday for 47 weeks of the year. It operates from 8am until 6pm. Children attend for a variety of sessions. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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