

Firbobs@Hillside

Hillside Primary School, Ridgeview Road, PRENTON, Merseyside, CH43 9HG



Inspection date

6 October 2015

Previous inspection date

29 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Managers are highly successful in their aim to provide a safe, caring and secure environment where children are encouraged to meet their potential and have lots of fun. Children display a very strong sense of security and clearly have an extremely enjoyable time in the stimulating and welcoming environment provided.
- Managers have an excellent knowledge of statutory and other government requirements and ensure that these are met.
- Children's emotional well-being is extremely well promoted. Staff form highly positive relationships with children, and as a result, children are secure and happy during their time at the club.
- Arrangements for safeguarding are highly effective. All staff have a high level of knowledge and understanding of child protection issues, and the setting's broad range of policies relating to child protection, health and safety are well embedded.
- Staff establish highly positive partnerships with parents to meet children's needs. Parents praise the excellent level of communication with staff. They say, 'the club is a home from home for children' and comment how safe they feel their children are.
- Children and parents praise the wealth of interesting activities and resources provided, which are highly successful in promoting children's all-round development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine action planning to make the intended outcome of planned improvements even clearer.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors. Children were unable to use the outdoor areas due to bad weather.
- The inspector held meetings with the setting manager and the provider.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Elaine White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Managers have a strong drive to further improve provision. For example, since the last inspection, self-evaluation has become more focused to ensure areas for development are swiftly identified and acted upon. The manager and provider ensure that the views of parents and children are regularly sought through questionnaires. Managers communicate very effectively with the managers of other out-of-school clubs run by the provider to promote a sharing of knowledge and high-quality practice. These measures have led to improvements in the quality of provision. Managers acknowledge that action planning could be made even better by including more precise details of the intended outcome of planned improvements. A rigorous performance management system ensures that children benefit from staff's good level of training in childcare, safety and food hygiene. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective and the process of recruitment and selection of new staff members is thorough and robust. Managers ensure that they, and staff, are up to date with developments. For example, they have attended recent training relating to some newly introduced aspects of safeguarding. Staff work very closely with schools to ensure a high level of communication to meet children's needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide a very welcoming and stimulating environment in which children can explore and learn through play. Children show a high level of motivation and concentration as they use tablet computers and enjoy creative activities. They show a high level of imagination as they play with dressing-up clothes and a role-play tent. Staff are enthusiastic and warm in their interactions with children. They very skilfully promote children's independence, encouraging them to make choices in their activities. Staff promote and track children's learning in their personal, social and emotional development and their communication and language. This helps to promote their all-round development extremely well. They provide a wealth of interesting activities, including outings, for example, to the local shop, to help to broaden children's understanding of the world around them. Staff are highly successful in engaging with parents to share information about their children's needs and learning. This helps to ensure that children's needs are very well met.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff have a warm, caring approach and are highly skilled in establishing strong attachments with children. This has a very positive impact on children's sense of security and confidence. Staff are excellent role models. They have high expectations for children's behaviour and show respect and consideration to children and each other. As a result, children behave extremely well. They are secure in the routines of the club, responding quickly to staff's instructions to stop and tidy up for snack. Children know, after a show of hands, that too many children want to play with the tablet computers at once, so they patiently wait their turn. Children then willingly and happily share the tablets together. They enjoy fresh air and robust outdoor play in the extremely well-equipped outdoor area. Children learn about healthy eating as they take part in making healthy snacks, such as fruit kebabs. They show a very good understanding of healthy eating as they discuss with staff which foods are the healthiest.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY415868
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	851664
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	Carrie Ann Stacey
Date of previous inspection	29 November 2011
Telephone number	01516453462

Firbobs@Hillside was registered in 2010. The setting employs three members of childcare staff, two of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The setting opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 3pm until 5.45pm.

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