HCEP Candles





Inspection date	7 October 2015
Previous inspection date	21 May 2015

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and m	anagement	Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and asse	ssment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children have a thoroughly enjoyable time. The club is relaxed and friendly and children confidently follow their own interests and play harmoniously with their friends.
- Staff form secure emotional attachments with the children in their care. Children respond positively to their key persons, who help them to feel secure and to settle quickly.
- Staff provide well-planned learning environments, indoors and outdoors, which are designed to meet children's individual interests. This supports children's curiosity to play and explore. All children make good progress from their starting points.
- The provider, well-qualified manager and staff have introduced a number of positive changes since the last inspection. They have successfully dealt with the previous actions and recommendation. These changes have improved outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always take advantage of children's daily routines to promote their independence skills further.
- Sufficient information is not always shared with parents to enable them to be more involved in their child's activities and learning at the club.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of everyday routines to promote children's independence skills further
- provide parents with the information they need to be more fully involved in their child's activities and learning at the club.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities, inside and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.

Inspector

Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff show a secure understanding of how to safeguard children from harm. They can recognise the signs and symptoms of possible abuse and neglect, and know how to share their concerns regarding a child's welfare. Recruitment systems are thorough and all staff have had appropriate checks. Staff's ongoing suitability is monitored by management and this has helped to identify training needs, such as behaviour management. Self-evaluation is at the core of the improvements made in the setting. Staff meet weekly to discuss ongoing improvements, and an action plan has been put in place highlighting areas for future development. This contributes to sustained improvement. There are good partnerships with parents, who are very complimentary about the staff and the care provided for their children. However, there is room to share more information about the activities and learning that takes place in the club, so that parents can continue these at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff in the club provide a wide range of interesting resources that support children's independent play. There are ample opportunities for children to be creative and use their imagination, such as through art and craft activities. Children are able to choose what they want to do, indoors or outside, and resources are easily accessible. Staff use a range of effective strategies to support children to develop confidence in talking to others and expressing their own views and opinions. Children talk about their experiences and their home life. They learn about festivals from around the world so that they gain a better understanding of different cultures and backgrounds. Staff have developed good links with the host primary school and share relevant information with teachers, which helps to ensure children's individual needs are met. Activities complement and extend the learning that takes place at school. This helps children to continue to develop the skills they need for future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's personal and social skills are promoted well by the club. This is because children are encouraged to help each other, take turns and respect each other's needs. Children develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy due to staff giving them guidance. Staff are good role models, helping children to behave positively. Children learn that good hygiene routines, eating healthy snacks and having regular drinks promote their physical health and well-being. They become confident in their own abilities and learn to be independent, choosing the activities they want to do. However, there are times when staff do things for children rather than letting them have a go themselves. Children enjoy time outdoors, learning that exercise can be fun. They energetically run around, playing games that challenge their physical skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY344461

Local authority Darlington

Inspection number 1016268

Type of provision Out of school provision

Day care type Childcare - Non-Domestic

Age range of children 4 - 10

Total number of places 40

Number of children on roll 169

Name of provider

Heighington C of E Primary School Governing

Body

Date of previous inspection 21 May 2015

Telephone number 01325 300326

HCEP Candles was registered in 2006. The club employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.50am and 3.15pm until 6pm.

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