

# Waterloo Meadows Play Centre

Elgar Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 0BN



## Inspection date

16 October 2015

Previous inspection date

28 May 2015

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not keep an accurate record of children's attendance. They fail to keep complete records that show the departure times for each child. The records do not reflect and record the time that staff take responsibility for the children after school. Records do not contain the name of the designated key person.
- Some required records, including for incidents and recruitment, are not kept readily available on site. This means that when other staff cover in the club, they do not have access to all possible information that they may need.
- Staff do not do always provide children with suitable food. Children are offered a limited range of sweet biscuits as a snack. The main meal is made up largely of processed food products and lacks healthy options.

### It has the following strengths

- The leader has addressed actions from the last inspection sufficiently to improve the club's provision for children to a suitable standard.
- Children mix well. Their understanding of differences in society is promoted well, and staff tackle any unwanted behaviour sensitively. Children are involved in devising the club's rules. Staff listen to, value and respond to children's views and opinions.
- Staff establish very positive relationships with children. Children respond to their warm and caring approach, which promotes children's self-esteem and emotional well-being. Children behave well and have good personal skills.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	<b>Due Date</b>
■ ensure that the daily record of attendance always contains the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their actual hours of attendance	30/11/2015
■ ensure that any food and drink provided for children is wholesome, healthy and nutritious	30/11/2015
■ ensure that confidential records, including those for staff recruitment, and the full details of any incidents and follow-up action taken, are available for inspection and kept on site unless there is agreement from Ofsted to keep these securely elsewhere.	30/11/2015

### Inspection activities

- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and registered person. The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the club's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to some children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed staff interaction with children during activities indoors and outdoors.

**Inspector**  
Melissa Cox

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement**

Safeguarding is effective. The leader has a suitable understanding of the requirements. The leader has not ensured that the manager meets all requirements in full but these weaknesses have not had a significant impact on children's safety and well-being. All staff are adequately supported in their roles; they have regular staff meetings and training, including for updating their child protection and first aid knowledge. The leader works closely with staff, schools and children's parents. This helps staff to keep up to date with current requirements, to review quality and to identify areas for further improvement, although some aspects have been missed. For example, the name of the key person who accompanies children on the walk to the centre and looks after them is not recorded. All staff now recognise the possible signs and symptoms that may give cause for concern about a child's welfare. They know how to record and report these. There are effective methods for staff recruitment, which have improved since the previous inspection.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good**

Staff provide an interesting range of activities based on children's interests to complement their time spent in school. They are alert to the children's needs and intervene appropriately to support children's enjoyment and development. They skilfully encourage children to talk, to explore activities and to use their imaginations. These actions effectively promote children's engagement in enjoyable activities. Children learn to take turns, they solve problems and they participate well in games, such as draughts. Staff keep all parents well informed about their children's experiences through various ways. This positive communication with parents helps staff to meet children's play needs well.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement**

Children are happy and settled in the club. They state that they enjoy their time there. There is a positive atmosphere; older children look after younger children and include them in their play. Children participate in outdoor activities. They develop their physical skills, and daily fresh air promotes their good health and well-being. Staff are vigilant in ensuring that children play safely. They supervise them well and encourage them to take small, manageable risks in their play. Staff are good role models to children and provide clear expectations for their good behaviour. Children show kindness to one another and they listen well to each other. They respond positively to the club's rules. Staff consult with children to find out their views and ask them about the type of activities they would like. This approach helps children feel valued and contributes well towards their enjoyment of activities. Hygienic care practices are suitably established but, while the staff provide children with enough to eat, the food is not always healthy.

### **Outcomes for children**

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	955484
<b>Local authority</b>	Reading
<b>Inspection number</b>	1016683
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out of school provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Age range of children</b>	4 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	50
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	100
<b>Name of provider</b>	Reading Borough Council
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	28 May 2015
<b>Telephone number</b>	01189 372506

Waterloo Meadows Play Centre out of school care registered in 1989. The club is situated in central Reading, Berkshire. The club is open on weekdays during school terms before and after school. It is also open from 8.30am to 5.30pm during the Christmas, Easter and half-term school holidays. The club employs six staff, of whom two hold early years qualifications at level 3.

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