

Inspection date	16 November 2015
Previous inspection date	2 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Attendance records are not adequately completed to clearly show the arrival and departure times for children.
- The safeguarding policy does not cover the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting, and there is no policy on e-safety.
- Staff do not keep a written record of when medicine is administered to children.
- When children are in the school hall they are not effectively engaged as there are no activities or resources available for them. On occasions, this leads to poor behaviour.
- There are no facilities for the children to use to wash their hands before eating when they are in the school hall.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy being outdoors. Staff provide them with many opportunities to be active. Children enjoy organised sport activities and games they make up for themselves.
- Some aspects of partnerships with parents are good. Parents report that their children enjoy their time at the club and speak highly of the staff and the activities they offer to their children.
- Children have many opportunities to be creative through organised activities and by choosing to use the craft materials available to them.

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:

	Due Date
■ ensure there is an effective daily record of attendance which clearly shows children's hours of attendance	02/12/2015
■ review the safeguarding policy to ensure that it reflects the use of mobile phones and cameras	02/12/2015
■ keep a written record each time medicine is administered to a child and share this with the child's parent	02/12/2015
■ promote the good health of children so that they are developing the skills to keep themselves safe and healthy.	02/12/2015

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

- provide a stimulating and welcoming environment that helps to keep children motivated and interested.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities, both indoors and in the outside play area, and talked to the staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector discussed the activities on offer with one of the managers and held a meeting with both managers.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including the register and safeguarding policy and procedure.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff working with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and of the club's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The staff do not keep clear records of children's attendance. They write notes on the register, which makes it difficult to identify when children have left the club. Children are not fully safeguarded because there is no policy relating to the safe use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting. As a result, not all staff and volunteers are fully aware of their responsibilities regarding these aspects of safeguarding. For example, they know to leave their phones in the office but do not fully understand why. However, staff are fully aware of their responsibility to report any concerns about children's well-being and are confident in their ability to recognise child protection issues. There is no accurate record of medication given to children to ensure their safety and well-being. For example, staff do not always complete the medication forms when medicine is administered to children. The club manager carries out annual appraisals each year. Staff have opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding through attending training courses. This helps staff to support children effectively as they play with them. The manager and staff are currently reflecting on their practice as they embark on a quality assurance scheme. However, the provider has failed to ensure that all legal requirements are met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

When children are in the main club room they enjoy a generally good selection of activities and resources. They choose what resources they want to use and whether they want to be indoors or outdoors. Staff are deployed well to both support and supervise children in their play. They plan activities that engage and interest children. For example, staff provide a variety of different fruits for children to chop to make fruit pots. They use safe knives to chop the fruit and they talk about how they look and smell. Children enjoy using beads to make patterns. They think carefully about what colour beads they need to make their patterns symmetrical. There are opportunities for children to be creative as they use art and craft materials. However, at times, children are in the school hall, where they do not have access to an appropriate range of activities to engage their interest.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The provider has failed to meet some of the safeguarding and welfare requirements, which compromises children's safety and well-being. The organisation of the club is not always effective. The children move around the school for different parts of the session. For example, when they come out of classes they go into the school hall to have tea. Some of the children are required to sit and wait with nothing to do. They become restless and their behaviour deteriorates. Furthermore, there are no facilities for children to wash their hands before eating and they are not given plates to put their food on. Children are generally happy and enjoy their time at the club. They have good relationships with the staff. When children are playing, they take turns and share resources well, and are polite and courteous to each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY262858
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	860573
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	28
Number of children on roll	67
Name of provider	Little Lanes Partnership
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2011
Telephone number	01707 262556

Little Lanes was registered in 2003. The club employs six members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The club opens during school term time only. The sessions are from 7.30am until 8.50am and 3pm until 6pm Monday to Friday.

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