

Olivers Lodge - Steeple Bumpstead

Steeple Bumpstead Village Hall, Finchingfield Road, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7ED



Inspection date	23 November 2015
Previous inspection date	28 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		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 many opportunities to be active. They enjoy fresh air and exercise every day. During fine weather, they enjoy visits to a nearby playground where they can run and climb. They have access to the adjacent hall where they engage in a range of sports, such as badminton.
- Staff form strong relationships with children and welcome them warmly. Relationships between each child, their key person and other members of the staff team are very good. Children settle well and are happy in this welcoming and friendly environment.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents report that their children generally enjoy their time at the club and speak highly of the staff and the activities they offer to their children.
- The manager and staff are generally well organised. They are vigilant in signing in visitors to the club. The manager ensures all visitors know the club's policy on leaving mobile phones in the kitchen.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Supervision arrangements do not always fully support all staff to develop their practice to the highest possible level.
- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to exchange information about children's attendance arrangements with parents and the school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the arrangements for the supervision of staff, in order to more precisely identify their strengths and areas for professional development
- make more effective use of the procedures already in place for the sharing of information with the school and parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact these have on children's engagement and enjoyment.
- The inspector accompanied the club manager, area manager and a group of children on the walk from school.
- The inspector took a tour of the premises and jointly discussed and evaluated the activities with the manager.
- The inspector conducted an interview with the owner and managers of the club. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the club's policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable about how to protect children and what course of action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. There are systems in place to review risks in the environment and on walks from the local school. The management and staff team effectively review and evaluate the quality of the provision. They gain and reflect on the views of children and parents. The management team implements robust recruitment and vetting procedures to ensure children are cared for by suitable adults. Staff attend regular meetings and training, such as first aid, food hygiene and safeguarding. This has a positive impact on children's safety and welfare. Staff have regular supervisions and appraisals. However, the systems used for evaluating the effectiveness of staff practice are not fully robust. Managers and staff do not always have specific targets for improving their own practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a variety of interesting activities to support children's play and complement their learning at school. They ensure there are a variety of stimulating resources inside ready for children as they arrive. Children are excited as they see creative activities based on their interest in pirates from the previous week. They discuss what their pirate pictures will look like and try to make theirs the best. Children enjoy pretending to be vets as they use the imaginative play area. A cosy book area is available for children who want to rest or sit quietly. Staff skilfully engage with children in activities and give them freedom to be independent. Children enjoy each other's company and play well together. For example, children of all ages enjoy making models with dough. The older children suggest ideas to the younger ones. They help them to succeed and tell them how good their models are.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy the walk from school to the club. They chat to the staff about their day at school and sing songs they have been learning. Staff give children the freedom to run in safe places. Children enjoy kicking and throwing fallen leaves. This helps to promote the development of their physical skills, and they demonstrate their enjoyment of being in the fresh air at the end of the school day. Children are provided with healthy meals and snacks. The staff use these times to engage in social conversations with children. Staff have good relationships with parents and obtain information about children's abilities, interests and needs. This enables them to support all children's individual needs effectively. However, at times the information shared between the parents and school is not always clear. For example, on occasion, staff are not always sure if children are attending other after school activity clubs within the school. Children are learning to be tolerant of one another and to respect each other's differences, and their behaviour is good.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349376
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	981382
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	31
Name of provider	Olivers Lodge Limited
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2011
Telephone number	01799540709

Olivers Lodge - Steeple Bumpstead was registered in 2009. The setting employs three members of childcare staff, two of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The setting opens Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 3pm until 6pm.

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