

The Den Breakfast & Afterschool Club



Bovingdon Primary School, High Street, Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP3 0HL

Inspection dates

Previous inspection date

17 December 2015 - 14 December 2015

2 March 2012

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

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- Staff who hold a paediatric first-aid qualification are not always deployed effectively to ensure a rapid response to any accidents.
- Parents are not provided with information on how to contact Ofsted should they have any concerns about the club.
- Supervision arrangements do not support the manager and staff to develop their practice to the highest possible level.

It has the following strengths

- Staff plan a good variety of engaging activities to interest and stimulate children. They join in with games and activities alongside children. Children of all ages play and cooperate together well.
- Staff form strong relationships with children and welcome them warmly. Children settle well and are happy in the friendly environment.
- Partnerships with the school are strong. Staff take account of topics being taught at school and plan their activities accordingly. They share information with teachers to help them to understand children's needs.

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that there are sufficient members of staff holding paediatric first-aid qualifications available to respond to accidents quickly 	30/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ make information on how to contact Ofsted available to parents 	30/12/2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ strengthen the arrangements for the supervision of the manager and staff, in order to more precisely identify their strengths and areas for professional development. 	30/12/2015

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's engagement and enjoyment.
- The inspector took a tour of the premises and jointly discussed and evaluated the activities with the staff and manager.
- The inspector conducted an interview with the manager 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 during the inspection and took account of their views. She also spoke with children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the club's self-evaluation form.

Inspector
Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable about the course of action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. There is always at least one member of staff present who holds a paediatric first-aid qualification. However, at times they are not in the room where the children are playing. Consequently, they are not always able to respond to emergencies quickly. The management and staff team review and evaluate the quality of the provision. They occasionally provide questionnaires for children and parents to share their opinions and views. They provide some information to parents relating to the club's policies when they register with them. However, staff do not make information available to parents about how to contact Ofsted should they have concerns. The manager carries out some appraisals with the staff. However, these are very infrequent and do not always identify the staff's ongoing professional needs to help them develop their practice. Furthermore, the management committee does not have effective arrangements in place to fully supervise and support the manager.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Children enjoy each other's company and play well together. They pretend to be in space as they play in the imaginative space centre. The staff provide interesting resources, such as plastic pipes and keyboards. The children make up games and show a good understanding of the names of planets and stars. Staff have planned this activity to complement children's learning about space at school. Staff generally engage well with children in activities and give them freedom to be independent. However, staff do not receive regular feedback on their practice or attend training to ensure they are continually developing their knowledge and understanding. Children enjoy craft activities, using natural materials to make Christmas decorations. They engage well, taking their time to carefully apply glue and glitter. Children are very pleased to be able to take their decorations home. Younger children are encouraged to write their names on their creations and the staff talk to them about letter sounds.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Parents speak positively about the club. They talk about how their children settle quickly and enjoy the range of activities available to them. Staff have good relationships with parents and obtain information about children's abilities, interests and needs. This enables staff to support all children's individual needs effectively. Children behave well. They are learning to be tolerant of one another and to respect each other's differences. Children are provided with nutritious food. They make their own choices and staff talk to them about a healthy balanced diet. Staff carry out daily checks on the hall to make sure it is a safe environment. However, children's safety is at times compromised as there are occasions when staff holding a paediatric first-aid qualification are not in the hall. Children have opportunities to go outside and they particularly enjoy using torches when it is dark. This helps to promote the development of their physical skills and ensures they have plenty of fresh air at the end of their school day. Staff provide cushions and books so that the children can sit quietly or rest when they need to.

Setting details

Unique reference number	509667
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	869391
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	43
Number of children on roll	53
Name of provider	The Den Management Committee
Date of previous inspection	2 March 2012
Telephone number	0773 317 2896

The Den Breakfast & Afterschool Club was registered in 1993. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate qualifications. The club opens Monday to Friday from 7.45am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm term time only.

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