

Fiona's Sparklers

Ickleford Primary School, Arlesey Road, Ickleford, HITCHIN, Hertfordshire, SG5 3TG



Inspection date

1 March 2016

Previous inspection date

28 June 2012

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

- The provider promotes effective recruitment and induction procedures to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. She monitors staff practice and carries out regular supervision and appraisal meetings to support staff with their ongoing professional development.
- Children enjoy being creative as they make and decorate biscuits for special occasions, such as Mother's Day. They use role-play resources imaginatively to create their own stories.
- The well-qualified staff team regularly reflects on their practice to ensure that they share good practice and continue to meet children's needs.
- Partnerships with teaching staff at the host school are effective and enhance children's overall care and well-being.
- Children's physical development is good. Staff provide opportunities for them to enjoy fresh air and exercise on a daily basis. Children excitedly join in with games that are fun and staff listen to their ideas and suggestions.
- Children are happy and settled. They build strong bonds and attachments with staff and form close friendships with children of all ages.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always engage parents in what their children are doing at the club.
- On occasions, children do not have enough time to think about how to respond to questions and comments from staff.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide parents with more opportunities to find out what their children are doing at the club
- provide children with sufficient time to respond to staff's questions and comments.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of staff interaction during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's time at the club.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.
- The inspector observed a planned activity and jointly evaluated this with the provider.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including the safeguarding procedures and policies, staff supervision and appraisal records.

Inspector

Jo Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff attend regular child protection training to ensure that they remain aware of legislative changes. They know the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Both the provider and the manager of the club are the designated adults to take the lead with safeguarding concerns. The staff are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities in protecting children. All suitability checks are completed and staff have appropriate first-aid training. Parents are happy with the care and attention their children receive. They comment that their children are happy and often want to stay at the club when they arrive to collect them. Staff talk to parents and children during their initial visits to find out as much as they can about each child before they start. They complete a record of information which includes children's likes and interests. Staff promote daily discussions with parents. Although, opportunities to engage parents in what their children are doing at the club could be enhanced with further ways to share information. The provider and staff team evaluate what they offer at the setting on a regular basis. They look at the activities they plan, talk to children about their views, and discuss themes and topics they can organise to provide children with fun activities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff discuss current themes and learning with school teaching staff and link their own planning, where possible. This is an example of how staff know what to plan, so that children engage in activities and experiences that are stimulating and fun. Staff ensure that the enjoyment children experience at the club complements the learning that takes place in the school they attend. Children are motivated and engage in a range of opportunities and experiences which they evaluate with staff on a daily basis. Staff provide a range of challenges to extend their play. They provide opportunities for children to solve problems, think further and work as a team. For example, staff set a challenge for the children to plan an event to celebrate Mother's Day. Children devise posters to promote the event, decide on the hand massage treatment and book parents in to enjoy their special pamper treat, which parents respond positively too. Children are warmly praised and fully encouraged by staff. Their self-confidence and independence skills are well promoted. Staff show a genuine enjoyment of their roles and join in with children's games.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's self-esteem and confidence are well promoted and staff regularly tell children how great they are. Children eat a range of healthy and nutritious snacks. They are given choices about what they eat and independently serve their food, choose their fruit snack and pour their own drinks. Children skilfully use the outside apparatus and confidently ride on scooters as they carefully manoeuvre around other children. Children's behaviour is good. Staff are consistent in their approach to promoting boundaries. Children respect others and remind each other of the importance of sharing and taking turns during activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349914
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	863301
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	26
Number of children on roll	37
Name of provider	Fiona Kaye Minett
Date of previous inspection	28 June 2012
Telephone number	07542103536

Fiona's Sparklers was registered in 2007. The out-of-school club operates from Ickleford Primary School in Ickleford and serves the host school. The club employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including the owner who has an Early Years degree. The club opens from Monday to Friday, 3.30pm to 6pm, during term time only.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

