

Elm Cottage Out of School at Hursthead



Hursthead Infant School, Kirkstead Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 7PZ

Inspection date	21 March 2016
Previous inspection date	21 August 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not met	
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 dedicated and enthusiastic manager considers the views of staff and children when evaluating the quality of the service provided. This helps her to plan further improvements in her continual drive to provide the best possible experiences for children and their families.
- The manager implements robust recruitment and vetting procedures which help to ensure that all staff and volunteers are suitable to care for children.
- Staff provide a wide range of activities, both indoors and outdoors. They listen to children's ideas and plan activities following children's interests. This contributes effectively to children's enthusiasm and levels of engagement.
- Children of all ages play cooperatively together, sharing resources and taking turns. Younger children are well supported by staff and older more experienced children make the most of the fun activities provided.
- Children are encouraged to be independent. They choose their own snacks from an extensive range of healthy foods. Children are aware of the importance of good hygiene practices and remember to wash their hands before they eat.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, opportunities to further develop children's skills and support their learning in school are missed.
- Opportunities for parents to effectively contribute to the evaluation of the setting on a regular basis and support even further improvements are inconsistent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to support children's learning and the skills taught in school
- develop further strategies which support parents to effectively contribute to the evaluation of the setting on a regular basis.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the care of children in the playrooms and outdoor play area.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the club's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff can identify the potential signs and symptoms of abuse and know who to contact should they have concerns for a child's welfare. The manager and staff regularly check the environment for hazards and take appropriate steps to minimise the risk of harm to children. Children learn about possible risks and how to reduce these as they complete their own risk assessments with the support of staff. Since the last inspection, staff have introduced additional measures and reviewed procedures in order to ensure that the premises are kept secure. This helps to protect children's welfare and safety. Support for staff is good. The manager frequently observes staff as they interact and play with children. Regular supervision meetings provide opportunities for the manager to monitor and discuss staff performance. She has developed a robust programme of training and professional development opportunities for staff, in order to ensure that they keep up to date and develop their skills further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage children to express their wishes and help them to make decisions about what they would like to play with. Staff talk to children about what they are doing and sometimes ask questions and pose simple problems to enhance their skills. Staff observe children and share any significant observations with teachers in school. Children concentrate for long periods of time as they use a range of materials to make cards and bracelets. Staff sit with children, they demonstrate how to use resources and offer praise and suggestions which children find motivating. Children enjoy a wealth of play experiences outdoors. They are effectively taught to be mindful of their own and other children's safety as they play. For example, children listen carefully to staff, abide by rules and enthusiastically take turns when playing with a children's archery set.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form warm and trusting relationships with staff. Children are happy and play confidently in this busy and welcoming club. Staff are good role models and manage children's behaviour consistently well. Children develop their own club rules and understand what appropriate behaviour is. They behave well and are respectful of staff and other children. Staff provide a stimulating environment, both indoors and outdoors. Children are well supported to develop their relationships and play well together. Staff work well with parents to provide children with sensitive support as they settle and make new friends. Regular opportunities for conversation with parents as they collect children from the club help to keep them informed of things which affect their children. Staff effectively support children to celebrate diversity and recognise and value the differences between themselves and others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY313648
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	995957
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	80
Number of children on roll	118
Name of provider	Elm Cottage Ltd
Date of previous inspection	21 August 2014
Telephone number	07848437983

Elm Cottage Out of School Club at Hursthead was registered in 2005. The club employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 9am and from 2.30pm until 6pm.

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