Bedwell Playscheme



Bedwell Community Centre, Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 1NA

-		7 April 2016 1 August 2013	
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Leadership is good. The manager and staff are enthusiastic and have diligently addressed recommendations from the previous inspection to promote quality practice.
- Children make full use of indoors and outdoors for active play. They eagerly take part in activities, such as, football competitions, scavenger hunts and basketball. Children also enjoy table tennis and walking on stilts. These are some examples of activities that support children's physical health.
- Key persons work closely with parents. They share and record information that helps all staff to plan activities that support children's progress and identify areas in which they require additional support. Disabled children and those with special educational needs benefit from the strong links between the provision and their parents.
- Staff plan a broad range of activities that complements children's learning in school. Children of all ages demonstrate that they enjoy their time in the provision and relate confidently to staff.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff are not sufficiently vigilant in supervising the outdoor play area.
- Children do not always consider and manage risk and fully understand the need for safety when playing and using resources.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the monitoring and supervision of children when they are playing in the outdoor area
- improve opportunities for children to learn how to use resources and materials safely.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors, and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked to all staff and some children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as, the setting's policies, staff training files and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lynne Talbot

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a secure knowledge of child protection procedures and an understanding of the possible signs of abuse. All staff attend updated safeguarding training each year which ensures that they know how to report concerns about children's welfare. They have a handbook in which there are reminders about the procedures for referral. Employment procedures are robust to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. There are comprehensive risk assessments in place for all areas of the premises. These measures help to ensure that children's well-being is protected. However, on occasions staff fail to implement the outlined procedures for supervising children when playing outdoors. Staff all undergo thorough induction when they start work. The manager provides ongoing support for staff to help enhance their performance and identify any training needs. She completes daily reviews of practice and staff have a formal development programme. This is in addition to the ongoing in-house training programme that all staff complete to support teamwork.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan group activities effectively so that children of differing ages are all able to take part. Children use a wide range of creative materials to produce models of figures on toy skis, to take part in a ski jump challenge. They predict how fast their model will slide and record the outcomes on a chart, before the winner receives a prize. Children readily engage in board games. They use simple mathematics as they count during dice games and calculate the cost of hotels in board games. Children expand their vocabulary as they describe objects for others to guess when playing card games. Children are well placed to transfer skills that they use at the provision to their learning in school. Staff help children to consider safety when using technology, as well as staying safe in the sun. However, children are not consistently provided with clear messages about playing safely with materials and resources, which means they do not always manage risk well when playing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy taking some responsibility. For example, they often help staff run the snack shop. This helps to develop children's sense of responsibility. The manager and staff have made significant improvements, since the last inspection, to support children's developing awareness of eating healthily. For example, they offer fruit and salad bags on the menu. Sugary drinks are not provided, or encouraged, in the provision. Staff talk with the children about the foods they bring into the provision and encourage them to consider healthy options. Staff are good role models and speak to the children calmly and with respect. Children enjoy receiving bronze, silver and gold certificates and stickers, as recognition of positive behaviours. These strategies are successful and together with other approaches, tailored to individual children's needs, help to create a positive environment. Children are able to contribute effectively towards their own activities and understand that their views are recognised and respected. They help to formulate future plans and evaluate what takes place to aid continuous improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285450	
Local authority	Hertfordshire	
Inspection number	1028452	
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	5 - 14	
Total number of places	40	
Number of children on roll	350	
Name of provider	Stevenage Borough Council	
Date of previous inspection	1 August 2013	
Telephone number	01438 242389	

Bedwell Playscheme was registered in 2004. There are four members of staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, 3 or 4. The provision opens each Monday to Friday for two weeks at Easter and four weeks in school summer holidays. Sessions are between 10am and 12.30pm and from 1.30pm to 5pm. The provision supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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