

Hedgehogs at Freegrounds

Freeground Junior & Infant School, Hobb Lane, Hedge End, Southampton, SO30 0GG

Inspection date	12 April 2016
Previous inspection date	20 October 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 a relaxing and enjoyable time. They value the freedom to 'be themselves' and choose what they want to do. They enjoy the 'interesting things to do' and the activities vary each day. Children say that they feel safe.
- Children behave well and respond positively to staff's high expectations of their conduct. There are good relationships between children and staff.
- Staff support the children's play well. They provide a good range of activities that promote children's developing physical, creative and social skills.
- Staff make sure that children are safe at all times. When playing on the school field, for example, the children know exactly where the boundaries are and do not stray beyond these.
- The managers respond quickly to suggestions from parents about how to improve the club. They work effectively with parents to provide flexibility and meet their children's needs well.
- The managers support staff well to attend ongoing training to improve their skills and take good care of children's welfare needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not organise outdoor play effectively to reduce the amount of time that children spend waiting before they can go outside.
- The items for snack are not well organised for children to help themselves and reduce the amount of time they wait for their turn.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of outdoor play to reduce the amount of time that children spend waiting before they can go outside
- organise snack times so that children can help themselves more easily and spend less time waiting in a queue.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children playing and the staff interactions with them.
- The inspector spoke to the staff and manager at convenient times.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children.
- The inspector spoke with the provider's representative.
- The inspector examined documents, including registers, policies, records of accidents, and staff qualification certificates.

Inspector

Janet Dinsmore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers follow robust recruitment and employment procedures so that staff are suitable for their role and have early years qualifications. They support staff well to continue to update their knowledge and skills through ongoing support and training opportunities. This has supported staff well to promote children's communication skills. There is effective monitoring and evaluation of the provision to ensure activities continue to meet children's needs and keep them safe. Safeguarding is effective. The managers and staff are clear about their responsibility to safeguard children's welfare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make sure that there is a range of resources available that supports a variety of skills and interests, including creative and imaginative play, for example, role play and making models using dough. Children develop physical skills well and enjoy new challenges, for example, when learning to skip. Staff provide activities that encourage children to cooperate and work together effectively. They support children well by joining in with their games. For example, they engaged them in a project making daisy chains to decorate the school gazebo. Staff know the children well and respond positively to their suggestions and requests for activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff promote children's behaviour well and ensure children always know that they can refer any problems to members of staff, helping them to feel safe at all times. Children share resources well and cooperate when playing games, taking turns. Children embrace the activities available and enjoy pretend play, acting out familiar school routines and situations. They support each other well during computer games, to encourage each other's achievements, for example. Older children play very well with younger ones and include them in their games of football or imaginative games in the 'dens'. Staff are sensitive to the needs of younger children, particularly as they tire towards the end of the session. They make sure that they have someone to play with and engage in an activity. Staff communicate well with parents at the end of each session so that parents know about their children's good behaviour, and any incidents or problems.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368405
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	835561
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	20
Name of provider	Extended School Solutions Ltd
Date of previous inspection	20 October 2011
Telephone number	07746 743172

Hedgehogs at Freegrounds registered in 2007. The club operates in Southampton and is one of four settings owned and managed by the same company. The club offers before and after school care only for children attending Freegrounds infant and junior schools. The breakfast club opens each school day from 8am to 8.50am and the after school club from 3.15pm to 6pm. The club employs eight members of staff, of whom six are qualified. The supervisor has a level 5 qualification, four members of staff are qualified to level 3 and one has a level 1 early years qualification.

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