

South Hill After School Club

South Hill Primary School, Heath Lane, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1TT



Inspection date

26 April 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 new staff members have swiftly developed into an effective team. The relationships with the host school are good. They work together on continuous improvements, such as considering what new furniture and equipment would enhance the environment and support children's enjoyment and comfort.
- Children enjoy reading. They bring books to the club and sit and read quietly to themselves. Staff provide comics and magazines that are of interest to the children. They engage in conversation and debate as they discuss the articles together.
- Children arrive happily from school and staff warmly welcome them. Relationships between each child, their key person and other members of the staff team are good. Children settle well and are happy in this welcoming and friendly environment.
- Children with special educational needs are skilfully supported. Staff communicate with children's teachers and parents to adopt consistent strategies to support their individual needs.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents report that their children enjoy their time at the club and speak highly of the staff and the activities they offer to their children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Supervision arrangements are at an early stage and not yet used to precisely identify the new staff team's ongoing professional needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the arrangements for the supervision of staff, in order to more precisely identify their training and professional development needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and assessed the impact these have on children's enjoyment.
- The inspector took a tour of the premises and jointly discussed and evaluated the learning activities with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the club's policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and the club's ongoing action plans.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable about how to protect children and the course of action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. There are systems in place to review risks in the environment and in the school playground. The manager reviews and evaluates the quality of the provision and sets action plans. The staff seek the views of children, helping them to provide resources and activities to meet children's needs and interests. The manager implements robust vetting procedures to ensure children are cared for by suitable adults. Staff have regular supervisions and appraisals. However, these are not yet used to precisely identify staff's ongoing professional needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff ensure there are a variety of stimulating activities available to children as they arrive from school. Staff skilfully support children when they need it and give them freedom to be independent. For example, children create structures with recycled boxes. They have good ideas of what to make and which box or bottle to use. They ask staff to hold parts together while they peel off the tape to fix pieces together. Children of all ages make up games and decide which characters to be as they act out stories. They explore the dressing-up box to find costumes to complement their imaginative play. The manager has recently introduced a new procedure to gain and share information with the younger children's class teacher. This helps staff to support children's play and complement their learning at school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy taking responsibility at the club. They eagerly volunteer to help prepare tea, helping to develop their sense of responsibility. Children discuss the importance of wearing gloves to handle food to stop germs spreading. Older children sit with their younger peers as they eat their healthy meal together. They talk about their day at school and listen to music. This highly social time, along with effective conversations, helps children to gain confidence to share their thoughts and views. Children have immense fun playing outside. The extensive school playground offers a wealth of activities and abundant space. Children engage in ball games and use their gymnastic skills on the adventure playground. These activities help to promote the development of their physical skills as they benefit from playing in the fresh air at the end of their school day. Staff have good relationships with parents and obtain information about children's abilities, interests and needs. This helps staff to effectively support all children's individual needs. Children's behaviour is good. They have worked together to develop rules and values for the club. This helps children learn how to be tolerant of one another and to respect each other's differences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496731
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1035726
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	60
Number of children on roll	45
Name of provider	Claire's Club Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	0782 8770197

South Hill After School Club was registered in 2016. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Two members of staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The club operates from 3.15pm to 6pm during school term times. The club supports children with special educational needs.

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