

Firbobs @ Thornton Hough



Thornton Hough Primary School, St. Georges Way, WIRRAL, Merseyside, CH63 1JJ

Inspection date

11 May 2016

Previous inspection date

3 September 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Staff provide a rich and stimulating environment indoors and outdoors, supporting children to become independent and active learners with confidence and the skills ready to learn in school.
- Staff work very closely with each child's teacher to complement the experiences children receive in school. Staff establish a detailed knowledge of each child's needs through continual observations and assessments and an excellent working relationship with parents. Parents say they feel their children are extremely well supported.
- Effective teamwork contributes strongly to the consistent high quality of teaching. Ideas and outstanding practice are quickly shared among the providers of other clubs through innovative ways, including a closed-computer application. The company also leads workshops and shares their outstanding practice with other out-of-school clubs at network meetings.
- The management team is constantly seeking ways to improve and enhance their provision. This is reflected in clear development and action plans. A variety of different ways is used to gain the views of the children and their parents and/or carers.
- Children are highly involved in the planning and evaluation of activities. Their ideas are gathered at regular planning meetings and through themed competitions.
- There is a calm, yet industrious, atmosphere in the out-of-school club. Staff build respectful and caring relationships with children. They model and encourage positive, warm, friendly relationships and exemplary behaviour.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- embed the enriched procedures for the effective supervision of staff and further enhance the current very good opportunities for staff to share their outstanding practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and the provider. She looked at evidence of the suitability of staff, the self-evaluation, children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and from information included in the club's own surveys.

Inspector

Lynne Naylor

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The management and staff team maintains an excellent understanding of statutory and government requirements. Staff effectively implement a wealth of comprehensive policies and procedures to keep children safe and to deliver high-quality care and learning for those of all school ages. High numbers of qualified staff and a strong commitment to training have a highly positive impact on teaching. Regular supervisions and an individual personal development target help each staff member to continually build on their very good performance. Leaders make thorough checks on the work of staff and give very helpful feedback. The provider has plans in place to give staff even more detailed feedback. Staff provide rich, varied and imaginative experiences for children, which they share with others in the company, so all of them effectively learn from each other's outstanding practice. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The provider ensures that all staff are completely aware of safe working practices and procedures. She requires all staff to hold a valid paediatric first-aid certificate and regularly update their child protection training. Staff also wear lanyards with child protection telephone numbers, so each member has these accessible in an emergency.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff use regular observations and assessments of children's abilities to plan exciting and highly stimulating learning experiences. Staff have an extremely sharp focus on helping children gain and refine skills to support their learning in school. Staff and each child's teacher meet regularly to discuss each child's next steps for development. They agree any support required to help narrow any gaps in each child's learning. Staff provide playful activities, such as threading cereal onto chenille craft pipes, to help to strengthen children's finger control. Activities help to support children's ability to control a pencil and develop good handwriting skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are highly effective in promoting children's emotional well-being and helping them to feel valued. Displays of children's work significantly help to make the club welcoming. Staff and children write positive notes about each other on a special board, helping them to celebrate each other's success and take pride in achievements. Children effectively develop healthy lifestyles and strong physical skills. Staff teach children to respect and tolerate each other's differences in a wide variety of ways. Children develop an excellent understanding of their community and the wider world. They have many excellent opportunities to learn about their local area and community members, including joining village activities, such as treasure hunts on Saint George's day. Children are fully involved in making decisions and sharing views. This prepares them well for getting along with others in life. They learn the importance of caring for the world's resources through topics about recycling and conserving energy.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY388542
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	849822
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	40
Number of children on roll	79
Name of provider	Carrie Ann Stacey
Date of previous inspection	3 September 2009
Telephone number	07950492390

Firbobs @ Thornton Hough was registered in 2009. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.45am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 5.45pm.

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