

Inspection date	17 August 2016
Previous inspection date	9 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	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

- Since the last inspection staff have taken effective steps to improve the provision for children. They have made sure that children are allocated a key person. Children have easy access to toys and equipment and are provided with an area in which to relax.
- Children follow robust hygiene procedures. They are clear about the need to wash their hands before eating and are keen to get in the line for the sinks. Staff monitor this and clearly reinforce the importance of good hygiene in keeping healthy.
- Children benefit from the plentiful opportunities for outdoor play. They explore, looking at the different trees growing along the fence, and are excited to find apple trees and the blackberries growing on brambles. There is a constant stream of children eager to have a bounce on the large-inflatable castle.
- Children use the comfortable book area, relaxing on the large cushions as they look at books. They use books and play figures to act out stories, working with their friends to develop their ideas.
- The staff know the children well. Most children also attend the school and all staff work in both settings. This helps them to understand children's needs and to support them effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have yet to establish partnerships with other schools, in order to ensure they share useful information about children. The majority of children at the club attend the host school, however, a small number at the holiday playscheme go elsewhere in term time.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend partnerships to include all other schools that children attend, in order to ensure useful information about children is shared.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of staff interaction during activities, and assessed the impact this has on children.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the club manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the club's self-evaluation, policies and evidence of the suitability of the staff.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The qualified team is well organised. Managers and staff have reviewed their practice and made changes based on their evaluation. They continue to reflect on what works well for children at the after-school sessions, and how they can adjust this to provide what children need at the holiday club. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff knowledge is secure and includes the latest updates to legislation. They are alert to the possible signs of abuse and know the process to follow, in order to report any concerns. Staff ensure that safety checks are complete each day. This includes checking any equipment brought in for special activities, such as the inflatable castle. Staff have regular supervision sessions with the manager. They continue to use transferable skills from training in school to support their work in the club. Parents are well informed about the club. They find their children enjoy the busy days and are tired out from being so active. Staff now display the activity plans, including those for the next holiday. This is particularly helpful for those families who only use the holiday club, as they have the details of upcoming events well in advance. The partnership with the host school is particularly strong. Staff share information about children's skills with the teachers, in order to support continuity in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff offer children a good selection of well-planned activities. They invite external providers of special activities in to enhance the provision for the children. They have enjoyed an informative science based session and are eagerly anticipating a visit from some reptiles, mini-beasts and insects. Staff skilfully use their classroom experience to help children continue their learning within the club. They encourage children to build on their mathematical knowledge, as they make caterpillars with a repeating pattern for the body. Children carefully plan what they will do, some use an alternating two-colour sequence and others create a more complex repeat pattern. Children are very imaginative and enjoy pretend play with dolls. They make sun catchers on silver discs covering them in glitter and hanging them up outdoors where they catch the sunlight. Children demonstrate their physical coordination and muscle control. They learn to use roller skates with increasing skill and understand about keeping safe while trying out such activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Relationships between staff and children are good. Children behave well. They are respectful and live up to staff's high expectations of them. Children understand and follow instructions. They know which areas of the secure site they can use and adapt well as they move between the dining hall and classroom locations. Children spend lots of time out in the fresh air. Staff are vigilant about children's health and well-being. They encourage them to wear hats and sunscreen on sunny days. Children help themselves to drinks from their bottles or from the water fountain. Staff provide snacks, they make sure there is an appropriate balance of fresh fruit and carbohydrates for energy. Staff are alert to children's medical needs. They record the details of any specific care needs and make sure all members of the team recognise signs that children may be unwell and have the knowledge of the appropriate steps to take at such times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY271511
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1058222
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	3 - 11
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	160
Name of registered person	Kim Dilees Parker
Registered person unique reference number	RP514217
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2015
Telephone number	01438 219410

Happy Kids was registered in 2003. It operates from Round Diamond Primary School in the Great Ashby area of Stevenage and is privately owned. The club employs six members of staff. Of these five hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 and above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, 7.30am until 8.50am and 3.25pm until 6pm, during term time. The club is open Monday to Friday from 8am until 6pm during the main school holidays.

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