

Waterloo Meadows Play Centre

Elgar Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 0BN



Inspection date

28 September 2016

Previous inspection date

16 October 2015

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

- Children enter the club with confidence and enjoy activities that complement their ongoing learning and developmental progress at school.
- Staff support children's good health. For example, they provide children with a healthy and well-balanced evening tea. Partnerships with parents are good. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's day. For example, they talk to parents daily and share achievements records to help supports continuity in children's care.
- The leadership team implements an effective programme of safe recruitment procedures, inductions, and ongoing staff appraisals. All staff working with children are confident and capable in their roles and suitable to do so.
- The leadership team has significantly improved the provision since the last inspection. Leaders regularly reflect on staff practice and undertake audits on staff performance to make consistent improvements, which enhance the quality of care for the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Arrangements for snack time do not fully encourage children's social skills.
- On occasions, the noise levels are high and younger children find it difficult to concentrate, engage in quiet activities, or relax.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to be more sociable at mealtimes
- create an environment that enables children to concentrate, play quietly and relax more easily without interruption.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's involvement in activities in the club's play area and outside.
- The inspector looked at a sample of children's records and discussed these with staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector looked at and discussed documentation in relation to safeguarding, risk assessments and daily attendance registers.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of their role and responsibility to protect children's welfare. The leadership team has met all actions set at the last inspection. For example, staff now monitor children's attendance well and accurately record the times of arrival and departure of children, staff and visitors. The leadership team works well with staff to support them and provides regular training to ensure their knowledge is up to date with current requirements. For example, staff learnt about healthy eating, which has had a positive impact on outcomes for children. Staff provide parents, and professionals involved in children's care, with detailed information. For example, notice boards give information which helps to keep them up to date with planned activities and themes.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a varied range of activities based on children's interests, ages and developmental stages. Children are well occupied at the club and settle well to the activities on offer. For example, children enjoy making up team games outside and have fun as they use their imagination, pretending to work in an office. Staff support children's creativity and encourage them to use their imagination. For instance, when exploring with clay, staff encourage children to be creative as they make a starfish. During all activities, staff help children to extend their speaking, listening and attention skills. For example, during group times, staff include children in conversations and ask them a variety of questions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff provide a relaxing and welcoming environment for the children. Children are happy and settled at the club. They independently choose what to play with, form good friendships and behave well. Staff teach children to be kind and considerate. Children willingly share and take turns. For example, they play board games and cards, working cooperatively. Staff help children to learn how to keep themselves safe. For instance, they remind children of the rules for the apparatus when climbing and using the zip wire in the local park. Staff encourage children to be active. Children enjoy participating in outdoor activities, such as ball games and action rhymes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	955484
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	1057581
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 - 13
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	Reading Borough Council
Registered person unique reference number	RP518112
Date of previous inspection	16 October 2015
Telephone number	01189372632 and 01189372636

Waterloo Meadows Play Centre out of school care registered in 1989. The club is situated in central Reading, Berkshire. The club is open on weekdays during school terms before and after school. It is also open from 8.30am to 5.30pm during the Christmas, Easter and half-term school holidays. The club employs three staff, of whom two hold early years qualifications at level 3.

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