

Pioneer Childcare

The Albemarle Centre, Appledore Gardens, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, West Sussex,
RH16 2AQ



Inspection date 27 October 2016
Previous inspection date 17 July 2013

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 settle quickly in the friendly, relaxed and welcoming environment. Staff get to know children's abilities well and show a good awareness of how to build on them. They actively encourage less confident children to have a go and persevere at activities.
- Children form strong emotional bonds with adults in the setting. At the inspection, children said that 'Pioneer staff are the best'.
- Children behave well and enjoy playing with their friends. They show a care and concern for others. For example, a child offered to share her jumper with another child who was feeling cold.
- Staff communicate effectively with parents. For example, they keep them well informed about children's progress and welfare. Staff work consistently together with parents to teach children how to manage their feelings and behaviour in an acceptable way.
- The senior management team consistently and effectively monitors and reviews practice. It focuses well on continuing to improve children's experiences. For example, following recent feedback from children it has increased opportunities for children to enjoy books and stories in all areas of the club.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not make the most of some children's preference to play outdoors.
- Sometimes children do not have the opportunity to fully develop their own designs and creative ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make greater use of children's preferences when providing activities, particularly for those who like to play outdoors
- provide further opportunities for children to be creative and express their own ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation including the club's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector held meetings with staff and managers.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children from verbal and written feedback.
- The inspector observed and discussed an activity with the childcare coordinator.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Thorough recruitment procedures help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. The management team gives priority to making sure all staff have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding procedures. Staff have a good awareness of how to protect children from extreme views and harm. They maintain a safe and secure environment where children can move around and play safely. The management team actively encourages ongoing staff development. For example, it provides additional training and support, and has individual meetings with staff. Since the previous inspection, staff have increased the range of resources for children to choose from when playing outdoors.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make good use of information gained from parents and teachers when meeting children's needs. They plan and organise activities that are interesting, stimulating and challenging for individual children. For example, children take part in games, musical activities and drama sessions. Staff organise the rooms effectively to meet children's needs. For example, toys are stored at a low level and there is plenty of space for children to use. Children make choices from a good range of resources and initiate their own play. They enjoy their time in the club and are well occupied. For example, they thoroughly enjoyed listening to a story and excitedly joined in calling out 'abracadabra'. They confidently and readily chat with adults and friends about their experiences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff help children develop a strong sense of belonging and ownership of the club. For example, staff display children's artwork on the walls. They provide good support for children, for example, when they move from the early years group into the older children's group. Children develop a respect for others and a good and positive awareness of diversity. For example, staff effectively reinforce children's already strong understanding of the importance of friendship. Children are independent and manage their own personal care needs well. They develop a strong awareness of the importance of good personal hygiene practice. For example, they recently took part in an activity where a member of staff put glitter on her hands and then shook hands with children. This made children realise how easily germs can spread if they do not wash their hands. Staff actively encourage healthy eating and, for instance, provide children with freshly prepared healthy and balanced meals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457613
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	1063262
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 - 8
Total number of places	110
Number of children on roll	176
Name of registered person	Pioneer Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900510
Date of previous inspection	17 July 2013
Telephone number	07718 425121

Pioneer Childcare registered in 2012. It operates from the Albemarle Centre within Oathall Community College campus in Haywards Heath, West Sussex. The club opens Monday to Friday from 7am to 9am and 3pm to 6.30pm, during school term times. The holiday club opens Monday to Friday from 7am to 6.30pm, during all school holidays. The club employs 12 staff. Of these, one has a qualification at level 6, six have a qualification at level 3 and two have a qualification at level 2.

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