

British Library Holiday Playscheme

British Library, Boston Spa, WETHERBY, West Yorkshire, LS23 7BQ



Inspection date

25 October 2016

Previous inspection date

1 November 2012

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 develop good relationships and gain increased levels of confidence as they interact with children of all ages. Older children are positive role models for younger children as they answer their inquisitive questions and invite them to join in with their games.
- Children enjoy their time at the playscheme and are very happy and relaxed. They choose from a varied range of activities and experiences on offer to them in the setting, in the outdoor play area and on outings.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. Parents appreciate the support and attention staff provide to their children and comment that it is an invaluable service.
- Children learn how to keep themselves safe. They learn to recognise potential risks and are encouraged to explore the safe environment and develop new skills.
- The committee and leaders are committed to providing a good quality service for children and their families. There are clear evaluations carried out on all aspects of the provision which result in carefully planned changes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some equipment to fully engage children in their chosen play is not readily available or in full working order.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure the equipment that children want to play with is readily available and in full working order.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had discussions with the chair of the committee, the leaders of the playscheme, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed a number of children's activities throughout the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of the documentation available, including safeguarding information and evidence of suitability checks.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents as expressed on the day of inspection.
- The inspector reviewed the provider's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Lindsay Dobson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are trained in safeguarding and have a secure knowledge of the action to take should they have any concerns about children's welfare. They deploy themselves well and are vigilant to help children to remain safe at all times. Staff monitor children's safety well and use clear explanations to help ensure that children learn to understand potential hazards. The committee ensures that staff are properly inducted into their work so they are clear about their roles and responsibilities. They work closely with staff to promote all aspects of their professional development effectively. The leaders share their ethos to give children the space to explore, have good fun and take risks in a safe environment. They share a detailed range of policies with parents when their children first attend. Staff foster good links with parents and information is shared well to ensure continuity of care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy their time at the playscheme and enthusiastically participate in interesting activities. Staff introduce some planned activities to offer variety, including arts and crafts. Although, on occasion staff do not ensure that all equipment is in working order, which can lead to frustration for younger children. Staff listen to children's opinions and allow them to make choices about which activities they would like to take part in. Staff are friendly and join in when needed while allowing children to lead their own play. Children in the early years age group are well supported by staff. They relax or are active according to their needs. Throughout the session, children engage in conversation with staff, using and developing their communication skills effectively. Staff play alongside children and talk to them about the activities they have chosen. They also talk about significant events in their lives, such as recent family holidays. As a result, staff know each child well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate that they are happy. Staff are attentive to children's different needs. Children check in with staff regularly, with warm reassurance available for them, if needed. Staff manage children's behaviour well. Children are encouraged to get involved and try new things. They demonstrate a sense of achievement as staff celebrate their efforts and congratulate their ideas. For example, as they make superhero pictures and masks. Children are supported well when they start the playscheme. They are helped to understand and follow good hygiene routines and take responsibility for their personal care. Information about children's individual dietary requirements is gathered and checked at mealtimes and snack times. This enables staff to provide a balanced diet of nutritious food which meets the individual needs of children. Children are encouraged to make their own choices about food from the varied daily menu and healthy eating is promoted by staff. The outdoor environment is used well to allow children plenty of space to play and explore in the fresh air. Particular favourites at the moment are riding bicycles and playing football.

Setting details

Unique reference number	512549
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	1059611
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 - 15
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	British Library Playscheme Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP902198
Date of previous inspection	1 November 2012
Telephone number	01937 546 686

The British Library Holiday Playscheme opened in 1985. It is run by a committee. Opening times are Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 5pm during school holidays. The playscheme employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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