

The Ivy Link

Ivy Street, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 5NZ



Inspection date

3 November 2016

Previous inspection date

10 December 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

- Partnership working with parents is good. They are very positive about the club and state that they value the service and the range of experiences provided.
- Staff develop positive, trusting relationships with children. They understand children well and support their emotional needs. They engage children in activities that motivate them and extend their concentration.
- Staff promote children's physical well-being effectively. For instance, children enjoy the physical challenges of the outdoor area. They learn about rules and the importance of teamwork in group games, such as netball.
- Children learn about the significance of being healthy and understand the importance of good hygiene. They learn about different parts of their body and how they work.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the most of the good links with all schools in order to identify ways in which to complement children's learning and interests in the club.
- Staff have not yet fully considered how daily routines or the organisation of the environment can be used to develop children's independence skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop more-effective strategies for information sharing with schools to enhance the continuity of all children's learning, interests and experiences even more
- review the organisation of daily routines and the environment to enhance opportunities for children to develop their independence skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of interactions during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's enjoyment.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider, who is also the manager, and the deputy manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club and the action plans in place.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection at appropriate times and took account of their views.

Inspector

Kellie Lever

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The management team supports the staff working at the club well. Appropriate recruitment procedures, induction, training and regular reviews ensure staff's ongoing suitability. Staff have a clear understanding of completing assessments of risk for all aspects of the club and any places they visit on trips. Safeguarding is effective. Staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse. All policies and procedures are implemented, updated and amended accordantly. This underpins the safe running of the club. The management team has good processes in place to monitor the quality of the provision. The views of staff, parents and children are taken into account in a variety of ways. For example, parents complete feedback sheets, regular staff meetings take place and children have discussions about what they like and dislike at the club. The recommendations from the last inspection have been successfully addressed. This demonstrates a good capacity to make improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff use their knowledge to provide exciting, stimulating experiences for children. Staff have interesting conversations with children that build on their language and knowledge. For example, young children learn the names of different parts of a helicopter and what they are used for. Staff provide sufficient challenge for the children as they follow the instructions of board games. They sit with children who explore with paint as they create patterns that fireworks make in the sky. Staff extend children's mathematical skills as they build structures with magnetic pieces. This helps support children's problem-solving skills, and increases their spatial awareness and identification of different shapes. Children expand on their imagination with a range of hats, masks and costumes. This is further supported as staff ask children appropriate questions about who they are and what they are doing, giving children appropriate time to think and develop their ideas.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave very well and learn good social skills. Staff talk to children, listen to what have to say and allow them to share their views. They celebrate children's achievements through a variety of ways, such as reward charts, and place their work on view for others to see. For example, they acknowledge children's success when they join letters together as they write. This helps support children's confidence and increases their level of self-esteem. Older children are good role models and are particularly nurturing with younger children. They include them in their play and identify things that younger children need support with. Staff recognise the importance of children understanding different jobs roles. They invite local people into the club to talk to the children, such as nurses and people from the army. This helps support children's understanding of the world around them and the community in which they live.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY301598
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	1059692
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	32
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Eileen Colette Histon
Registered person unique reference number	RP514033
Date of previous inspection	10 December 2012
Telephone number	07984 851878

The Ivy Link was registered in 2005. It is situated in the Runcorn area of Cheshire. It operates from 3pm to 6pm. The club employs four members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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