

St Thomas After School Club

St Thomas Parish Centre, St Thomas Road, Lytham St Annes, FY8 1JL



Inspection date

8 December 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Procedures for the vetting of staff are not sufficiently robust. The manager does not have effective procedures in place to ensure the ongoing suitability of staff.
- The manager and staff do not demonstrate a clear knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding procedures. They do not know who to report concerns to regarding the conduct of another adult or about children's welfare.
- Required documentation and records are not stored on the premises so that they are available and ready for inspection.
- Staff are not supported by the manager to receive coaching, improve their personal effectiveness or identify any ongoing training needs.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents are sound. Staff make good use of daily conversations and newsletters to keep them informed of their child's care and achievements in the club. Partnerships with the schools children attend are firmly established and support their ongoing development.
- Snacks provided are healthy and nutritionally balanced. Staff work closely with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met.
- The setting is, overall, safe and secure. The learning environment is warm, welcoming and well resourced.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due Date
■ implement robust systems for the vetting of staff, including checking staff's ongoing suitability to care for children	30/12/2016
■ ensure all staff understand the safeguarding procedures and who to report concerns to about another member of staff or about the welfare of a child	30/12/2016
■ ensure that all required records are available and ready for inspection	30/12/2016
■ provide staff with regular coaching and supervision so they are supported to improve their teaching skills and personal effectiveness and appropriate training is identified.	31/01/2017

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector checked the outdoor area was safe.
- The inspector spoke to the staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the club manager who is the provider. She looked at some relevant documentation, such as risk assessments, self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of some staff who work in the club.
- The inspector spoke to a small group of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Donna Birch

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The manager does not implement secure vetting procedures or check staff's ongoing suitability. Some staff do not know the procedures to follow or who to report to should they have safeguarding concerns about a child or another member of staff. This compromises children's safety. The manager also does not keep other relevant documents on the premises needed for inspection, such as staff qualifications. Staff take part in some induction procedures, for example, health and safety measures. However, the manager does not provide them with ongoing support to help them improve their personal effectiveness, teaching skills or identify training needs. Effective procedures for dealing with complaints are in place and appropriately implemented. The manager seeks the views of parents in the self-evaluation of the club. This, along with her own evaluations, means she makes some meaningful adaptations to practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff at the setting are experienced and qualified. They encourage children to make decisions about their play. Children excitedly enter the club and are greeted by enthusiastic staff who engage well with them. Staff listen to their requests and ask them a lot of questions about what they want to play with. Staff regularly review the activities provided at the club and ensure these are safe, suitable and meet children's individual needs. Younger children develop their writing skills and creative skills, for example, as they draw and design at the craft table. Staff encourage children to write their own names on pieces of their work and use letter sounds to help them with spelling and reading. Staff encourage children to count during activities. Additionally, staff discuss concepts, such as big and small, as children build using different construction toys. This helps support children's mathematical skills. Children demonstrate their good imaginative skills, as they allocate and take on different roles in the role play veterinary surgery. Staff make the most of these experiences to help children gain an appreciation of the living world. For example, they discuss how they might make the sick animals well again.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's well-being and safety is compromised. That said, children learn to adopt a healthy lifestyle and are encouraged to develop their social and independence skills. Children are encouraged to help with tasks, such as selecting and preparing snacks and pouring their own drinks. Staff have formed effective partnerships with the schools children attend. Children are happy and settled in the club and have good social skills. Staff offer continuous praise and encouragement. Children are confident and self-assured. They have a secure understanding about hygiene practices and keeping themselves safe. They wash and dry their own hands at appropriate times and walk responsibly and safely from school to the club. Children enjoy different activities outdoors and have access to a well-resourced outdoor area. This helps them develop their physical skills and have opportunity for fresh air and exercise.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494707
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1079238
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	40
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	St Thomas After School Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP534978
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07757360397

St Thomas After School Club was registered in 2015. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications between level 2 and level 5. One member of staff is unqualified. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.15am to 8.45am and 3.20pm to 5.20pm.

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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