Funzone Out Of School Club



Letchworth Garden City Community Project, Mrs Howard Memorial Hall, Norton Way South, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, SG6 1NX

Inspection date	26 September 2017
Previous inspection date	17 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

- The well-qualified staff team work together well. They are all aware of their roles and responsibilities. This helps to ensure the day-to-day running of the club is efficient.
- The key-person system is good. Children form secure emotional attachments with their key persons. They know children's individual needs well and this helps to build their confidence and self-esteem.
- The staff provide a stimulating environment with a wide range of activities. Children display high levels of concentration as they engage in self-chosen play. The staff consistently involve children in their evaluations of the activities they offer. This helps to ensure the activities continue to interest and challenge all children.
- Staff help children to settle well at the club. They offer children a flexible settling-in process matched to how they are settling at school. Key persons spend time with each child, helping them to complete a book showing their interests, needs and people who are special to them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although systems to monitor staff performance are in place, these are not rigorous enough to provide a sharp focus on enhancing staff's knowledge and practice to the highest levels.
- Staff do not always provide children with opportunities to gain information on the themes they are covering, to help ignite children's imagination and creativity as they take part in adult-planned activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the arrangements for performance management, focusing more precisely on monitoring individual staff's performance, to provide a sharper focus on enhancing staff's knowledge and practice
- provide more opportunities for children to research topics and themes to help them develop their ideas and enhance their creativity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's enjoyment.
- The inspector discussed the children's involvement in activities with the manager and members of staff.
- The inspector held a meeting and discussions with the provider.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club and the safeguarding policy and procedure.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are knowledgeable about how to recognise signs of abuse and how to respond to these within the organisation and inform other relevant agencies. The provider implements robust vetting procedures to ensure that children are cared for by suitable people. A comprehensive induction procedure helps staff to quickly understand their role and responsibilities. The manager and staff reflect on their practice by identifying areas they would like to improve, such as enhancing the security of the building. They proactively seek the views of parents and children and implement their ideas. For example, they have acted on parents' feedback about not receiving the club's newsletter, they now provide this through a range of different means. The provider and staff have effective systems in place to help them to keep children safe in the busy club. Staff are very aware of which children they are collecting from schools. They ensure they check with school staff and parents if children they are expecting are not there.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide many opportunities for children to have fun and play freely. Children are eager to choose from the wide range of resources and activities available to them. For example, they choose to build with construction toys and play imaginatively with small-world people and buildings. Children show their developing imaginations as they make up stories as they play. Staff understand children's differing needs and interests. For example, they clear away tables so that children who prefer to be more active have space for larger physical games. Staff observe children as they engage in play. They reflect on their enjoyment and discover children's current interests so they can plan what to provide next. Whenever possible, staff discuss children's needs and development with their class teachers at school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children eagerly arrive at the club and seek out staff to tell them about their school day. They enjoy meeting friends who attend other schools and play together very well. Children have opportunities for outside play in the hall grounds or at the nearby park. This enables them to be involved in team games and helps children to develop their larger physical skills as they run and climb. Staff encourage children to be independent, by pouring their own drinks and choosing their food. Staff ensure the food they provide is healthy and meets the individual needs of children. Parents speak positively about the care their children receive from the staff. They feel their children are safe and are reluctant to leave if parents arrive early.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY344365

Local authority Hertfordshire

Inspection number 1059741

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 94

Number of children on roll 73

Name of registered person Funzone Partnership

Registered person unique

reference number

RP903403

Date of previous inspection 17 December 2012

Telephone number 07870 168308

Funzone Out of School Club registered in 2006. The club employs 20 members of childcare staff. Of these, 10 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The club opens Monday to Friday during school term times from 7.45am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm. During school holidays, the club operates from Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm.

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