

Hippo's Club

St. Austins RC CP School, Garden Street, Stafford, Staffordshire, ST17 4BT



Inspection date

6 November 2017

Previous inspection date

3 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Ofsted have not been provided with the information required to enable them to complete the necessary checks to ensure all committee members are suitable to be responsible for the governance of the club.
- Systems for supporting staff in their professional development do not yet precisely identify areas to improve their practice to an even higher level.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and totally absorbed in the activities at the club. They are eager to join in and confident to try new experiences. The dedicated and enthusiastic staff involve children in the planning and accommodate their ideas.
- Children arrive enthusiastically at the club. Staff warmly welcome the children and take time to listen to their news. They treat the children with kindness and respect. This helps to promote children's feelings of well-being.
- Partnerships with parents and other settings are good. There are effective systems in place for the sharing of information. Parents are very pleased with the care their children receive and are extremely complimentary about the staff team.
- Comprehensive risk assessments to identify and minimise any hazards help to ensure children play in a safe environment under close supervision.

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
■ provide the legally required information about all committee members to enable Ofsted to determine their suitability to govern the club.	30/11/2017

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

- extend the system for professional development to focus more precisely on areas to further improve the already good quality of staff practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed play opportunities for children and spoke to staff members in the club.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The manager looked at and discussed a range of policies and procedures with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children and discussed the club's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of children and parents spoken to on the day of inspection and through written comments.

Inspector

Dawn Robinson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. Committee members who have overall responsibility for the safety and welfare of the children attending the club, have not had their own suitability checked. Although the manager has completed some checks, they have not provided Ofsted with the legally required information to determine if they are eligible to be part of the registered body. The roles and responsibilities of committee members are not clear. However, recruitment procedures for staff are comprehensive and robust to ensure their suitability to work with children. The enthusiastic staff team meet regularly to share ideas and contribute to the running of the club.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a well-planned, stimulating environment to meet the individual needs of children of different ages attending. Children choose from a good range of interesting activities. Young children enjoy using saws to cut dowelling to make kites, closely supervised and supported by staff. They try out their own ideas and solve problems by selecting different materials from a wide choice of resources. Staff interactions with the children help them to formulate their thoughts and extend their learning. Activities provided effectively complement children's learning in school. For example, children enjoy using games on an interactive whiteboard to support their mathematical development. Staff provide children with a good range of additional activities. For example, they have opportunities to watch ducklings hatch, grow plants and vegetables, enjoy cooking, be creative and find out information for different topics.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The club does not implement rigorous safeguarding procedures to check the suitability of all adults involved with the club. This impacts on protecting the safety and welfare of children attending the club. Despite this, settling-in sessions allow staff to gather further information about the children's interests, likes and dislikes. This helps staff to plan appropriate activities tailored to children's individual needs. Children of all ages are well behaved. They take turns, share resources and consistently demonstrate good manners. The club adopts the school behaviour system to provide continuity for the children. Younger children enjoy independently choosing from a range of healthy snacks and they regularly socialise with older children. This helps to prepare them for their next steps and moves within school. Children enjoy physical activities indoors and outdoors. Staff sensitively care for children as they start to tire. They find a cosy area where they can share a story and relax.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270130
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1101941
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	48
Number of children on roll	56
Name of registered person	Hippo's Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP521678
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2014
Telephone number	01785 356765

Hippo's Club registered in 2003. The club employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, from 7.45am until 8.45am and 3.15pm until 6pm, term time only.

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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