

The Cookie Club Ltd

Purwell Community Room, Purwell Primary School, Fairfield Way, Hitchin,
Hertfordshire, SG4 0PU



Inspection date 28 November 2017
Previous inspection date 15 May 2014

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

- Staff are enthusiastic. They plan interesting activities. Children enjoy making independent choices about what they would like to play with.
- The provider and staff evaluate all aspects of the provision, taking account of the views of parents and children. This helps them to successfully identify priorities for improvement.
- Children are happy and confident at the club. Staff are calm and nurturing, promoting children's good behaviour and interaction with each other.
- Staff develop positive relationships with parents and share information about what their children have been doing. Parents feel that their children are safe and secure. They comment that staff are friendly and approachable. Parents say that their children enjoy coming to the club very much.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not always given ample opportunities to think about and share information about customs at home or talk about those of others.
- Staff do not always support children as well as possible to help them develop consistently close relationships with their key person.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to share their knowledge, think through ideas and learn about cultural diversity
- strengthen the key-person system to help children develop an even closer relationship with staff.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of staff interaction and play during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's development.
- The inspector evaluated an activity and discussed this with the provider.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the provider, staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector also discussed with the provider how she reflects on practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback shared with the provider.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have good knowledge of how to minimise risks indoors and in the playground. Staff maintain accurate records, including those of children's attendance. They have a secure knowledge of child protection. Staff know how to make a referral to the relevant agency if they have a welfare concern. The provider implements safeguarding policies. She shares these with parents, along with other procedures that help to promote the safe day-to-day running of the club. Staff supervise all children well to help keep them safe. Strong recruitment and vetting procedures are in place to ensure all members of staff are suitable. The provider uses one-to-one meetings and appraisals to effectively support staff in understanding their role and develop their practice. Effective partnership working with local school teachers enhances opportunities for children to practise and consolidate their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan activities based on children's changing interests. They support their communication and encourage them to take part in interesting and purposeful conversations. Staff help children to develop their imagination through a wide range of craft activities. This enables children to build on existing skills, such as their hand-to-eye coordination, as they use a range of equipment, including scissors. Boys work together well to develop their games. They find the tools they need to extend their play. For example, they construct from click-together toys and create three-dimensional models from boxes and other recyclable materials. Children enjoy quiet time. They relax as they read books and share stories with each other.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The atmosphere in the club is relaxed and welcoming. Children are motivated to take part in activities and enjoy mealtimes. They are encouraged to develop good hygiene routines. Children learn about keeping safe as they put on high-visibility vests before going outside to play with torches so they can see each other in the dark. Staff set clear boundaries and praise children for their good behaviour. Children share, take turns and treat each other kindly. They enjoy being outdoors and run exuberantly as they play. Staff set good challenges. For example, as they throw balls during team games to help children develop good physical strength, accuracy, confidence and counting skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY471905
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1102906
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	30
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	The Cookie Club Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904382
Date of previous inspection	15 May 2014
Telephone number	07719519578

The Cookie Club Ltd registered in 2013. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Breakfast club sessions run from 7.30am until 9am and the after school club from 3.15pm until 6pm. The provider employs six members of staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

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