

Ferry Link Club Ltd

Thewall Parish Hall, Bell Lane, Thelwall, WARRINGTON, WA4 2SX



Inspection date	12 April 2018
Previous inspection date	10 November 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Occasionally, the provider does not keep a record of children's attendance, as is legally required. However, this does not have a significant impact on children's safety.
- Training and development opportunities are not broad or regular enough, to help the provider and her staff maintain an up-to-date knowledge of ways to promote children's care and learning to a consistently good effect.
- The key-person system is not effective enough to enable staff to meet each child's developmental needs from the outset.
- The monitoring and management of the provision are not secure enough to identify and address weaknesses swiftly, and ensure that staff implement procedures consistently.

It has the following strengths

- The provider has taken sufficient steps to address the weaknesses raised at the last inspection. She is beginning to introduce robust systems to sustain the improvements she has made, although these are in their infancy.
- Staff provide children with a good range of interesting activities and outings that broadens their experiences and helps them learn some new skills.
- Children develop secure relationships with staff. Staff encourage children to express their views and make decisions to help contribute to the organisation of activities.

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
■ maintain an accurate daily record of children's hours of attendance.	27/04/2018

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

- enhance the programme for staff training and professional development to help further improve outcomes for children
- strengthen the key-person system further, working more effectively with parents and other professionals to gain an accurate picture of each child's developmental needs right at the start
- add rigour to the checks and monitoring of the provision to help swiftly identify and address any weaknesses and ensure all procedures are consistently implemented.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's enjoyment and development.
- The inspector spoke to the provider and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and discussed the provider's action plans and self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of adults working in the club.

Inspector

Angela Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The provider has shared recently updated child protection procedures with staff and provided training to increase their knowledge of ways to protect children from harm. As the designated safeguarding lead, the provider is already booked on further training to extend her knowledge. The provider has strengthened procedures for the use of cameras and mobile phones, and children no longer use their phones while at the club. All staff hold relevant first-aid qualifications. This means that when groups of children are on outings or travelling to school, staff can respond quickly in an emergency. The provider is taking steps to secure further improvements. For example, she is working with her local adviser to audit her provision. However, she has not identified that the system for recording the times that children arrive is not robust enough. The provider has recently begun to observe staff practice and hold supervision sessions, as a way to help her identify staff training needs. However, the programme of training is too narrow, which limits opportunities to enhance outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff are beginning to make use of information from teachers about the children who attend. However, they do not always seek information from parents and other professionals about the development of children who attend holiday club. This means that, occasionally, staff are unable to promote specific aspects of each child's progress as consistently as possible, such as with toilet training. That said, staff generally shape activities well and help to complement some of the learning that takes place in school and nursery. Staff support children to practise skills linked to mathematics, reading and writing. For example, staff challenged children to add word labels to the picture menus they created during craft activities. They prompted children to sound out the letters they needed to write the word. Staff demonstrate how to make repeating patterns when children use small beads to design pictures. They promote children's physical skills well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Despite occasional weaknesses in record keeping, staff promote children's welfare generally well. Staff have worked with children to begin to embed expectations for their behaviour, for example, ensuring procedures to maintain safety on the minibus and with regard to the new mobile phone policy are effective. Children's positive behaviour is recognised and rewarded. The supportive environment helps children feel valued and secure. Children demonstrate a clear sense of belonging. They feel listened to and have a voice. For example, older children form a club council where they confidently give staff feedback and help to organise activities and events. Mealtimes are well organised and used as a way to help promote children's independence, and to prepare young children for their future experiences in school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY430145
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	1118638
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	3 - 11
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Ferry Link Club Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP530776
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2017
Telephone number	07946168145

Ferry Link Club Ltd registered in 2011. The club employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from 7.30am until 9am and 3pm until 6pm, Monday to Friday during term time, and from 7.30am until 6pm during school holidays.

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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