

Play 4 Ages

Hartley Primary Academy, Round Ash Way, Longfield, DA3 8BT



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

5 June 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children have fun and enjoy their time at the club. Staff plan a variety of experiences based on the children's interests and stage of development. They provide children with a welcoming and interesting environment.
- Children's behaviour is good, they have formed positive relationships with the staff and feel safe and secure. Staff are strong role models who promote children's emotional well-being effectively.
- Management and staff have undertaken safeguarding training. They understand child protection procedures and their responsibility to protect children in their care.
- There is a well-established staff team in place which is committed to supporting and caring for the children. The management team has secure procedures in place for recruitment, induction and supervision of staff to help ensure they have the required knowledge and skills to support children.
- Staff have established strong partnerships with parents, who state they are very happy with the service they receive.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently share information with other early years professionals, to help them complement the learning that takes place elsewhere.
- At times, staff do not offer children sufficient opportunities to make informed choices in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop closer ways of working with other early years professionals, to help provide consistency in children's learning
- review and improve the opportunities children have to make informed choices in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children indoors and outdoors and spoke to them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the area manager.
- The inspector spoke to parents and read letters of reference to establish their views on the service they receive.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including the safeguarding and complaints policies and children's records.
- The inspector observed the collection of the reception class children from the school.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Managers ensure the club is well organised and all records are maintained to a good standard. They have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. For example, they carry out thorough risk assessments and are constantly vigilant to ensure they minimise hazards and maintain children's safety at all times. The manager deploys staff effectively. For instance, they make good use of walkie-talkies to communicate and update each other as children move about the club. Safeguarding is effective. Managers have efficient systems for self-evaluation. For example, they gain the views of staff, parents and children to help maintain good standards and identify areas to improve. The manager is committed to providing good care for children and regularly monitors all areas of the club's practice. For example, staff have regular staff meetings and are fully supported in gaining qualifications to improve their practice. Staff work closely with parents and some professionals to meet children's care needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children arrive enthusiastically and are eager to talk with staff and friends about their experiences in school and at home. Staff know the children well and expand on children's conversations. For example, staff discuss recent holidays with the children, which helps them to gain a positive sense of belonging and learn about the wider world. Staff make strong use of praise and encouragement to help children accomplish tasks, such as counting rows and beads to make pictures on grids. Children have many opportunities to develop their imagination. For instance, they complete artwork and enjoy using different tools as they style hair in the pretend hairdressing salon.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are familiar with the club's routines and are busy and engaged throughout their time there. Staff support children as they play and encourage their social skills well. For example, they have fun playing ball games together. Staff teach children how to keep themselves and others safe. For instance, children learn how to climb and play safely in the wooded area. Staff provide children with a good range of printed materials to help them to identify the creatures they find on their bug hunt, which helps them learn about the world around them. Children feel safe and secure. They have a clear understanding of the rules and help to decide which ones are best for their club. Staff encourage children to follow good hygiene routines and teach them how to stay healthy. Staff offer the children a range of healthy foods and are aware of any special dietary requirements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY501187
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1053023
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	30
Number of children on roll	65
Name of registered person	Play 4 Ages Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP526619
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07855999606

Play 4 Ages registered in 2017 and is one of five groups run by Play 4 Ages limited. It operates from a hall in Hartley Primary Academy in Longfield, Kent. The group is open Monday to Thursday from 3.10pm until 6pm and Fridays from 3.10pm until 5.30pm. The provider employs nine staff, of whom, four hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3, one at level 2 and the provider holds a level 4 qualification.

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