

Hillview Link Club

Hillview School, Beechwood Avenue, Beechwood, Runcorn WA7 3HB



Inspection date	16 October 2018
Previous inspection date	14 December 2017

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

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is inadequate

- The provider continues to show a lack of understanding of how to implement robust procedures to recruit and vet new staff safely. The action identified at the previous inspection is not fully addressed, which demonstrates a poor capacity to improve.
- The arrangements for collecting children from other schools are not safe. New staff in sole charge of children are not fully vetted or trained in first aid. The vehicle used to transport children is not appropriately insured. This puts children at significant risk.
- The provider does not keep full records of the identify checks and vetting processes that have been completed to ensure staff's suitability.
- Children are not always provided with enough opportunities to explore independently and make their own choices during indoor play.

It has the following strengths

- Parents speak about the good communication in place between themselves, the club and the school. This helps to promote consistency in meeting children's needs.
- Staff set clear and consistent expectations regarding children's behaviour. All children get on well together and older children are kind to younger children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action:

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
implement effective systems to ensure all staff looking after children are suitable, which must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check	07/11/2018
ensure at least one person who has a current paediatric first-aid certificate accompanies children when they are away from the setting	07/11/2018
ensure all vehicles used to transport children are adequately insured	07/11/2018
ensure that all information is recorded about staff's qualifications, checks and vetting processes that have been completed, to establish the suitability of staff.	07/11/2018

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

- increase opportunities for children to explore more freely indoors and make independent choices in their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children, and completed a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector
Jan Linsdell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. Significant weaknesses expose children to unnecessary risks, particularly when staff transport children to the club from other schools. The provider does not carry out thorough checks to ensure new staff are suitable, including updating their Disclosure and Barring Service check. She does not ensure that when staff are in sole charge of children during school collections, they are qualified in first aid. The provider does not ensure that all vehicles used to transport children have appropriate insurance. Furthermore, required information is missing for some staff to confirm their suitability. Despite this, staff know how to recognise and respond to child protection concerns. They supervise children well and conduct risk assessments to help keep the premises safe and secure. The provider works alongside staff and supports them well, for example, through team meetings and supervision sessions. She makes sure most staff attend basic training, such as safeguarding, first aid and food hygiene.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Staff interact positively with children. They show interest in their day at school and ask questions to promote conversations. Staff encourage children to share their ideas for activities, which they use to inform their play plans. They teach children about rules and boundaries to help them understand how to keep themselves safe. Some indoor activities are organised to capture children's interest, such as playing with modelling clay and taking part in a group game. However, at times, some children spend too long sitting and waiting for adult instruction. They are not always encouraged to explore play areas independently and make their own choices. Staff exchange some information with school staff about the children's day. They find out if children need any specific help, such as with mathematics, and they support children with homework.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Significant weaknesses in leadership and management have a negative effect on children's safety and welfare. Recruitment and vetting procedures are poor and not enough priority is given to keeping children safe. This does not safeguard and promote children's welfare. Despite this, new children are paired with a 'buddy' to help them settle in. Relationships between staff and children are positive and parents report that children get on really well with the staff. This is evident when children eagerly invite staff into their games during outdoor play. Wall displays show how children take part in topics that help them to learn about healthy living. Children engage in friendly conversations with one another when they sit together to eat healthy snacks. They are excited and animated when they play outside. They enjoy using the school's challenging exercise equipment, which helps them to keep fit and active. Children speak positively about the club and say, 'Staff play games with us and they help us a lot.'

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY258892
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10079661
Type of provision	Out-of-school day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	198
Name of registered person	Histon, Eileen Colette
Registered person unique reference number	RP514033
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2017
Telephone number	01928797584 & 07984851878

Hillview Link Club registered in 2003. The club employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate playwork qualifications at level 3 or above. The club operates from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm during term time, and from 7.30am to 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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