

Inspection of Schoolfriend Clubs @ Hurst Primary School

Hurst Primary School, Dorchester Avenue, BEXLEY, Kent DA5 3AJ

Inspection date:

26 November 2019

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Children arrive at the club happily and are warmly welcomed by the staff. Children take responsibility for their personal belongings, for example by hanging their coats on the pegs. They settle quickly, and eagerly access the activities on offer. Children play well together, and older children support their younger peers. They take turns and follow the rules, for example when playing cards and board games.

Significant weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's welfare and safety are compromised. Management arrangements have not ensured that suitability checks have been completed. Some staff have been left unsupervised with children. The management team has not ensured that enough staff on site hold a valid first-aid qualification to support children's well-being.

Generally, children behave well. Staff talk politely to children and show respect. They give them praise during activities, and encourage good manners. However, staff do not routinely make their expectations for behaviour clear. They do not consistently remind children of the rules. On occasions, noise levels are high, which disrupts children who choose to participate in quieter activities.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Parents stated that they are happy with the club and that their children are happy to attend. They commented that staff are caring and friendly, and help their children to settle. However, many parents with younger children are unaware of their child's key person and said that feedback was limited.
- Staff know children well. They work in partnership with the host school and liaise with teachers to support children's individual needs. Younger children are collected from their classroom and opportunities are used to share information and pass on messages for parents.
- Staff support children to adopt good hygiene practices. For example, children understand the importance of washing their hands before snack time. They are provided with healthy snacks and water to drink. Staff sit with children and model good social skills. Equally, they give strong messages about the importance of healthy lifestyles. However, children often spend time watching films and, at these times, opportunities to promote exercise and physical well-being are not used effectively.
- Children enjoy completing large floor puzzles of maps of the world. They work in small groups and play cooperatively together. Staff provide encouragement and praise, and children are pleased with their achievements. Staff engage in meaningful conversations and extend children's understanding of the natural world and knowledge of other countries.

- Since the last inspection, actions have only been partly addressed. The manager has received some support in carrying out her role through supervision. However, appraisals for staff are inconsistent, and training needs are not identified effectively to increase their skills and fulfil their roles to the best of their abilities.
- The manager has identified some areas for further development to improve the quality of the provision. However, a clear plan to make improvements has not been prioritised. Feedback is not routinely sought from parents or children, and their views are not considered.
- Children form positive attachments with staff. They are confident to ask questions and make their needs known. They told the inspector that they enjoy attending and feel safe at the club. Staff are kind and caring and play games with them. Children enjoy listening to stories read by staff and engage in conversations. Younger children read stories to the dolls, and older children enjoy acting out stories to their friends.
- Staff ensure the environment is safe for children to relax and play. Risk assessments are in place and fire exits are clearly marked. Children practise evacuation procedures so they know what to do in an emergency. Staff stated they check the playground before children use the area to ensure safety. An entry buzzer ensures only authorised people gain access to the club.
- The manager plans a broad range of activities. However, children are not routinely asked for their ideas to ensure these activities are based on their interests and maintain their attention.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Safe recruitment procedures are not systematically in place. Managers have failed to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff have all attended safeguarding training and know the signs and symptoms that could indicate a child is at risk of harm. They have knowledge of radicalisation, and know potential signs of children being drawn into extremist views. Staff know the correct procedures to follow if they have concerns regarding a child's welfare. They supervise children in all areas of the club and maintain appropriate ratios. Staff keep registers of attendance, but are not always aware of how many children are present. The manager is aware that safeguards need to be put in place immediately to ensure all children are safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
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ensure that robust procedures are in place for safer recruitment, and suitability checks are completed on all staff who work with children	27/11/2019
make sure all staff undertake paediatric first-aid training to support children's health and well-being	31/01/2020
implement effective arrangements for supervision and monitoring of all staff, and provide training and support to ensure they are confident to carry out fully their roles and responsibilities.	31/01/2020

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY282654
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	10089096
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children	4 to 10
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	223
Name of registered person	Schoolfriend Clubs Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901397
Telephone number	07514838020
Date of previous inspection	29 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

Schoolfriend Clubs @ Hurst Primary School registered in 2004 and provides out-of-school care only. It operates from Hurst Primary School in Bexley, Kent. The club is open each weekday during term time from 7.45am to 9am, and 3.15pm to 6pm. The club employs three members of staff. Of these, two hold a level 2 childcare qualification and the manager has a level 3 childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Helen Craig

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff at work and children's experiences indoors.
- Children spoke to the inspector about their views of the club.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including staff suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and the manager, and discussed how improvements have been implemented since the last inspection.

We carried out this inspection 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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