

Inspection of Schools Out Club - Balham

Balham Community Centre, 91 Bedford Hill, London SW12 9HE

Inspection date:

14 February 2020

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Children's safety and welfare are compromised. This is because staff are not deployed effectively to ensure children, particularly the young ones, are always within staff's sight or hearing. This limits staff's ability to supervise children sufficiently. For example, young children move between different floors and mount steep stairs without adult supervision. This puts children's safety at risk. Staff failed to identify this as a hazard in their risk assessments. They do not have appropriate expectations on how young children should manage their own safety. This exposes children to unnecessary risks. Despite this, children arrive at the club happy and with positive attitudes. They are motivated to play and find activities to keep them occupied. Children form close and trusting relationships with staff, which supports their emotional well-being. Children have regular opportunities to be physically active. Young children enjoy balancing on small apparatus in the garden. They initiate their own ball games enthusiastically, developing skills, such as catching and kicking. Children's behaviour is appropriate. They play well together and share resources of their own accord.

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

- The provider fails to monitor practice adequately to ensure that staff understand how to safeguard children at all times. Staff are not deployed effectively. They do not risk assess the premises to ensure children are not exposed to risks, this specifically refers to when children move between different floors.
- Staff observe and talk to children about their likes and dislikes to help plan a range of interesting activities. Children enjoy playing with construction toys, such as cars and garages. They use their imaginations while they make two-dimensional pictures on wooden boards. They chat to their peers and adults, and describe their actions using a wide range of vocabulary.
- Staff sit with children and invite them to make seasonal cards for their family members and those who are important to them. They encourage children to practise their drawing and writing to help develop the skills they learn in school. During the activity, staff engage children in discussions, such as about their weekend plans. Children respond confidently, aiding their listening and conversational skills.
- Staff assist children with sharing and taking turns. They model the use of 'please' and 'thank you' to teach children good manners. Children are encouraged to be independent learners. They demonstrate this for example, by dressing themselves for outdoor play.
- Some staff members work in the school that children attend, which helps to establish a continuous approach to children's care and development. For instance, they share relevant information with the teachers, such as behaviour

management strategies.

- Parents interviewed during the inspection commented positively about their children's experiences at the club. They find that staff members are 'approachable and caring' practitioners.
- Staff do not receive adequate levels of support and guidance they need to carry out their roles and responsibilities effectively. Training is limited which hinders staff's ability to develop their knowledge and skills, particularly in relation to protecting children's safety.
- The self-evaluation process is weak. The provider does not evaluate the provision rigorously that led to a significant decline in standards. She failed to identify breaches in requirements, which undermine children's safety and welfare.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff do not have a sufficient understanding of how to keep children safe at all times. For example, they did not notice when young children climbed three flights of stairs unsupervised. The weaknesses identified during the inspection have a significant impact on children's safety and welfare. However, staff know about the signs and symptoms of abuse, including what might indicate that a child is being exposed to extremist views and/or behaviours. They know how to report their concerns to relevant agencies. There are appropriate recruitment and vetting procedures to assess staff's suitability to work with children.

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
deploy staff effectively, to ensure all children, particularly the young ones, are supervised at all times to ensure their safety	20/03/2020
carry out rigorous risk assessments so that potential hazards can be identified and minimised, so that children are safe, particularly when they move between different floors and use the stairs	20/03/2020

develop appropriate support and professional development for staff so that they have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities to support children's welfare.	20/03/2020
---	------------

Setting details

Unique reference number	508661
Local authority	Wandsworth
Inspection number	10138242
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	3 to 8
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	26
Name of registered person	Balham Community Centre
Registered person unique reference number	RP902447
Telephone number	020 8673 4350 0208 6754800
Date of previous inspection	10 August 2015

Information about this early years setting

Schools Out Club-Balham registered in 2001. It operates from a community centre in the London Borough of Balham. A breakfast club operates from 7.30am until 9am and an after-school club operates from 3pm until 6.30pm, term time only. A holiday club operates from 8am until 6.30pm during school holiday periods. The club employs 3 members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 to level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marisol Hernandez-Garn

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the manager completed a learning walk across all the areas used by the club, to understand how they support children's play. She discussed risk assessment procedures with the manager.
- The inspector accompanied the manager and staff when they collected children from school. She observed activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the manager and staff to assess their understanding of the learning and welfare requirements. She interacted with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents interviewed during the inspection. She looked at documentation including staff training records and a selection of policies and procedures.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2020