

Inspection of Helping Hands

Pennyhill Primary School, Hollyhedge Road, WEST BROMWICH, West Midlands B71 3BU

Inspection date: 27 February 2020

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

All children receive a warm welcome at this fun and well-planned provision. They develop secure relationships with staff and their peers and speak enthusiastically about their time at the club. Children choose from a wide range of resources, games and activities and enjoy socialising with their friends. For example, they play table-top games, challenge each other to 'giant connect four' and show increasing enthusiasm as they learn how to make salt dough. Children are well behaved and responsible. They engage in play across the age groups and show care and concern for each other. Children have ongoing opportunities to access the secure and well-supervised outdoor environment. They chat happily together as they chalk pictures of their family onto the paving and take part in group games such as 'hide and seek'.

Children have a strong sense of belonging and move seamlessly and confidently between the club and the school. They take ownership of the club and are involved in decision-making, which helps their personal development. For example, children have worked with staff to compile the club menu and regularly contribute ideas for activities and resources.

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

- Children are confident and self-assured. They talk to visitors about which activities they enjoy at the club and proudly show off the pictures they have drawn. Staff capture children's views about the resources and activities available and use this information to develop the provision on offer.
- Staff are well trained, enthusiastic and work effectively as a team. They benefit from ongoing support and coaching which helps them to continue to develop their skills and knowledge.
- Children are encouraged to develop their independence and make healthy choices. For example, they choose their own snacks from the daily menu, place their orders at the kitchen hatch, collect their own utensils and carry their food to the table.
- Staff engage well with children of all ages and work effectively to ensure that children's time in the club is fun and exciting. They show a genuine interest in children's well-being. For example, they spend time talking to children about their day at school as they greet them.
- Staff speak to parents at the beginning and end of each session. They ensure that messages are clearly communicated between home and the school, which helps children to move smoothly between the provisions.
- Strong working relationships with the school have a positive effect on children. Staff undertake regular observations of children and share information about

their progress with teachers, which contributes to their learning journey in school.

- Feedback is sought from parents and children who attend the setting. Parents speak positively about the setting and praise the 'flexible and caring' service provided. They say their children enjoy attending and are 'safe and happy' at the setting. Children speak fondly about staff members and say that they enjoy the range of activities of offer.
- Children's behaviour is good. Older children are caring towards younger children, including them in play and helping to ensure that they are safe. Children play collaboratively, take turns and learn to share resources. Staff offer ongoing praise and encouragement. This helps to support children's developing self-esteem.
- The providers make frequent visits to the provision and have a strong input into the overall management and development. They work closely with the manager and staff team to assess the quality of the provision, identify training opportunities and liaise with the school to ensure that everything is running smoothly.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff carefully monitor the areas of the school used by the club to ensure that they remain safe and secure. They vigilantly supervise young children as they visit the toilets located in another area of the school. All staff have completed safeguarding training and have a good knowledge of the local authority procedures for reporting concerns about children. They understand their responsibilities in keeping children safe from harm and are aware of wider safeguarding issues such as female genital mutilation and radicalisation. The provider has a robust recruitment policy and carefully monitors the suitability of new and existing staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416153
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	10074597
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 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	107
Name of registered person	Samantha Kolar and Michelle Kirwan Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP910877
Telephone number	07806774162
Date of previous inspection	7 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

Helping Hands registered in 2010. The out-of-school club employs five members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 9am and 3.20pm until 5.45pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Justine Cope

Inspection activities

- The inspector took part in a learning walk with the provider. She looked at all the areas of the school used by the club and discussed how the provision is organised.
- The inspector met with the provider and manager. She looked at a sample of documentation, including recruitment information, staff suitability checks and paediatric first-aid certificates.
- The inspector spoke with staff, children and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection and took account of their views.

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