

Inspection of Ants Out of School Club

c/o St. Anthony's Primary School, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands
WV10 6NW

Inspection date:

27 January 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (enforcement)

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Children are not kept safe because the arrangements for staffing do not meet their needs. At times, children are not adequately supervised. This includes when using climbing equipment, where children are at risk of falling. Children move around the club while eating and drinking, and staff do not encourage them to sit down. This increases the risk of children choking. The provider fails to ensure that at least one member of staff holds a current and valid paediatric first-aid certificate, which further impacts on the safety of children.

Nevertheless, children arrive happily at the club. They are welcoming of new people and show that they are confident to talk to visitors. Children form respectful relationships with each other. Some children seek out their friends to play with and make choices about what they would like to do. For example, they play football together and enjoy exploring the natural outdoor space to look for bugs in the mud. However, for some children, their needs are not met because routines do not allow them to make choices about where they wish to play. They ask to go inside and tell staff they are cold. Staff respond by telling them they can not go inside until later. This is because there are not enough staff, so they keep all children outdoors.

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

- The provider, who is also the manager, has not maintained her knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'. As a result, there are significant breaches, which impact on the quality of the provision and safeguarding of children.
- Risk assessment is not effective. Although staff are aware of safety measures identified for the equipment that children use, they do not implement these successfully to reduce the risk to children's safety. Consequently, children are at risk of harm.
- The deployment of staff means that children are not always adequately supervised. Children spend long periods of time playing in the large outdoor area. However, staff are sometimes engaged in speaking to parents or completing tasks inside the playroom. This means that those available to work with children cannot always see or hear them, which compromises children's safety.
- The manager fails to implement effective systems to maintain information about the suitability of staff. Information about the identity of staff and vetting checks have not been recorded. In addition, the manager has not maintained records of the recruitment and vetting procedures followed to demonstrate that staff are suitable to work with children. This means children are not safeguarded.

- The manager does not store information and records safely and securely. Some information and records are not available or accessible at all times. Staff do not ensure that they maintain an accurate record of children's full names and hours of attendance. This impacts on the safeguarding of children.
- The manager fails to ensure that there is always at least one person who has a current paediatric first-aid certificate available to work with children. She has identified that staff's current training has expired, but has not taken action to help staff access training to keep their knowledge up to date. This means that children are not safeguarded.
- The club does not implement a key-person system. Therefore, children do not have a named key person to provide tailored care that meets their individual needs. Staff have not established successful partnerships with the school that children attend. They do not exchange information in order to fully extend children's learning and experiences at the club.
- Children behave well at the club. They help to devise rules, which are displayed for them to see. Children respectfully follow the rules, which helps them to understand the expectations that the manager and staff have of them.
- Children are encouraged to share their ideas for how to improve their experiences at the club. They contribute to planning by recording what activities and resources they would like to play with. Children and parents are provided with surveys to complete, to share their feedback about the club.
- Parents and children speak positively about their experiences at the club. Parents report that staff are friendly and approachable, and that their children enjoy attending. Children comment that they like the environment and enjoy the creative activities on offer.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Significant weaknesses in risk assessment and the deployment of staff compromise the safety of children. The manager fails to maintain appropriate records required for the safe and efficient management of the setting. There is no evidence of an enhanced criminal records check to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Children are exposed to risk of harm due to the lack of appropriately trained staff in paediatric first aid, should an emergency arise. That said, staff complete regular training to keep their knowledge of safeguarding issues up to date. They understand their responsibilities to refer information of a safeguarding nature to other agencies in a timely way.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is not meeting requirements and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

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

	Due date
implement effective risk assessment so that all risks to children's health and safety are identified and action is taken to remove or minimise any risks and hazards in a timely manner	14/02/2022
improve the deployment of staff so that children are adequately supervised at all times to ensure their safety	14/02/2022
ensure that there is at least one person who has a current paediatric first-aid certificate on the premises and available at all times when children are present in order to respond to emergencies quickly	14/02/2022
ensure that information is recorded about the identity and vetting checks completed for all staff	14/02/2022
implement effective recruitment procedures to ensure that practitioners, and any other person who is likely to have regular contact with children, are suitable	14/02/2022
ensure that all information and records are held securely and are easily accessible and available to promote the safe and efficient management of the setting	14/02/2022
ensure that all children have a named key person, who helps to provide tailored care that meets their individual needs and builds a relationship with their parents	14/02/2022
maintain an accurate daily record of the full names of every child being cared for and their hours of attendance.	14/02/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY276610
Local authority	Wolverhampton
Inspection number	10220204
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 at time of inspection	4 to 11
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Walker, Laura
Registered person unique reference number	RP904443
Telephone number	07948739742
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

Ants Out of School Club registered in 2004. The club operates from St Anthony's Primary School in Wolverhampton. The club operates Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions run from 7.15am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm. The club employs five members of staff. Of these, three hold an appropriate level 3 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lisa Bennett

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The deputy manager and inspector completed a tour of the premises to gather information about how the provision is organised.
- Parents and children spoke to the inspector and gave their views of the setting.
- The inspector observed children playing indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of staff suitability.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.

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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