

Inspection of Whitehall Connections After School Club

Whitehall Primary School, 90 Normanton Park, LONDON E4 6ES

Inspection date:

3 February 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not Met (with actions)

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children arrive happily at the club. They are aware of the expectations for the beginning of the session. After selecting a book from the shelf, they come and sit on one of the mats in readiness for the register. The children talk excitedly with one another and staff as they share what has happened in their day. Staff share with children the plan for the afternoon and ask them if they have any questions about any of the activities, resources, and snack options available that day. Children feel that their views and opinions are considered, which helps to develop their self-esteem and confidence. Risk assessments before children arrive ensure the environment is safe and secure.

The curriculum is focused on developing children's interests. As such, children quickly join into groups and eagerly begin to take part in different activities. These include physical play outside, information and communication technology, construction building and jewellery making. Staff have high expectations of children, and children understand the rules and boundaries that are in place. On occasions, where children may need to be reminded of behavioural expectations, children are quick to respond appropriately. Children work well together, cooperating and sharing ideas to complete tasks. For example, children work together using large construction materials to build a car.

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

- Staff know the children well and build effective relationships with them. This enables staff to recognise when there is a change in children's behaviour. This is quickly addressed to ensure that children's well-being is supported if they may be experiencing difficulties with friends at school or changes in their home life.
- The atmosphere at the club is welcoming and staff interact positively with children. As children make bead necklaces, staff encourage younger children to use their phonics knowledge to find the letters in their names. Staff encourage children to persevere when they find some tasks, such as threading, difficult and offer praise when children are successful.
- Children are supported to make healthy choices. Staff provide a buffet tea for the children where they can learn about different healthy foods. Children can choose for themselves what they would like to eat and are encouraged to try new foods. Children are also able to enjoy a range of physical activities across the week, both inside and out. Children describe bench ball as one of their favourite activities at the club.
- Children are encouraged to be independent. When they arrive at the club, they hang their own coats and bags up. Children serve themselves at mealtimes and tidy away their plates and cutlery when finished.

- Partnership with parents is strong. Parents report being extremely happy with the levels of communication provided by the club. Termly newsletters inform parents of what will be happening at the club and regular emails provide any important information. Parents describe how the club kept in contact during lockdown periods, providing activity packs for children to enjoy at home.
- Children learn about diversity and inclusion. Celebrations consider children's interests and include activities such as doing arts and crafts, and topical word searches or puzzles for the older children. The club promotes British values, and all children are encouraged to share their ideas with each other. The club implements golden rules that remind children to always be kind and support each other.
- Staff at the club feel well supported by the leaders and managers at the setting. In-depth inductions and regular staff meetings ensure that staff can share concerns and ideas with managers on a regular basis. Staff are encouraged to continue their own professional development through attending online training that supports their roles.
- Leaders and managers are reflective in their practice. Regular feedback is sought from both parents and children attending the setting through regular questionnaires. Leaders and managers then use this feedback to see how they can make reasonable changes to what is offered.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Since the last inspection, the provider has ensured that all staff have revisited relevant safeguarding training. Staff now have a secure understanding of how to recognise children that may be at risk of harm or abuse. Staff understand the signs to be alert to that might indicate children are vulnerable to radicalisation or female genital mutilation. Staff are clear about the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against another member of staff. The provider ensures that children understand how to keep themselves safe online. Information is also shared with parents, so they can implement safety measures at home too.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY482495
Local authority	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Inspection number	10193047
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	28
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Appleby, Karen Laura
Registered person unique reference number	RP516895
Telephone number	0208 529 3813
Date of previous inspection	4 December 2018

Information about this early years setting

Whitehall Connections After School Club registered in 2014. The club is situated within Whitehall Primary School in Chingford, in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. The club operates Monday to Friday, from 3.20pm to 5.30pm, term time only. The after-school club has six staff including the manager. Of these, three staff hold early years qualifications at level 3 and 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Natalie O'Leary

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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