

Inspection of Hanley Crouch Community Association

42 Crouch Hill, London, Islington N4 4BY

Inspection date:

26 January 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Children's safety is not assured at the club, because of the weaknesses in staff's safeguarding knowledge. Nonetheless, children attending after school are safely collected from two local schools by club staff. They travel by 'walking bus' and arrive at the club chatting and smiling. Children understand and cooperate with new routines, to help keep them safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. For instance, they queue to have their temperatures taken on arrival. Children develop trusting bonds with the familiar staff, which helps them to feel welcome and secure. They are happy and relaxed at the club and confidently make choices about what they want to play with.

Children say they enjoy being at the club because there is lots to do and they can play with their friends. They respond positively to staff's high expectations and behave well. Older children are 'buddies' to their younger peers and support them to join in with games and activities. Children of different ages are kind to each other and develop secure friendships. Children show lots of energy and enthusiasm as they play. They cooperate well and call out encouragement to each other during a game of football. Children display imagination in their role-play games and concentrate intently on their creative artwork.

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

- Staff regularly update their safeguarding knowledge. However, leaders do not check that this training is effective. Some staff do not know how to respond to allegations or concerns about adults working with children. This weakness includes staff who have a designated safeguarding role.
- The provider has a written safeguarding policy. However, this is unclear about the actions staff must take and the agencies to notify if they have concerns about the conduct of a colleague. This means staff do not have a secure understanding of how to protect children from harm.
- Staff are enthusiastic and say that they enjoy working with the children. They provide stimulating and enjoyable experiences, which build on the things that children learn at school. For example, during lively board games, staff help children practise mathematical skills, such as counting, adding and comparing totals.
- Children thoroughly enjoy the club activities and resources. They concentrate and show attention to detail as they build complicated models from construction kits. Children are inventive and use their creations to support their imaginative play. For example, they add toy figures to create a 'space station' and pretend they are discovering new planets.
- Staff value children's opinions highly. They have introduced systems, such as

'carpet time' and a children's council, to help all children share their views. Staff use children's ideas to help devise the club menus and activities. This adds to children's sense of belonging at the club.

- Staff are committed to providing a friendly environment where everyone feels included. They support sensitive discussions on issues such as religion and gender, which help children to understand and respect each other's differences.
- Children are learning to lead healthy and active lifestyles. They enjoy vigorous exercise, such as games of football and basketball. Staff consult children about the meals at the club and they discuss the ingredients and nutrients. This helps to support children's understanding of healthy eating.
- The club rooms and routines are generally planned well to support children's well-being and enjoyment. For instance, children have areas where they can rest or play quietly if they feel tired. However, at mealtimes, children sometimes become bored, as they spend a long time waiting to be served.
- Staff are keen to develop their professional skills. They speak positively about recent training to strengthen their understanding of children's emotional needs. Staff explain how this helps them to communicate with children and support their behaviour more effectively.
- Parents' feedback is very positive. Parents say that the staff are friendly and know their children well. They comment that their children settle in quickly and speak enthusiastically about their experiences at the club.
- Staff have developed secure links with staff at children's schools. They ensure any messages from teachers are reliably passed on to parents. This helps to provide continuity in children's care.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Designated safeguarding leads do not know the correct procedure for reporting allegations or concerns about staff. Staff understand how to recognise and report signs of neglect and abuse in children. They are also aware of wider threats to children, such as risks of radicalisation and online abuse. Staff assess and manage possible risks to children within the club and while on outings. They ensure the premises are secure and children are only collected by authorised persons. The provider follows safer recruitment methods when hiring staff for the club. This includes robust checks on staff suitability.

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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strengthen staff supervision and training processes, to ensure all staff gain a clear understanding of their key responsibilities, in particular their roles in safeguarding children	07/03/2022
develop and implement a robust safeguarding policy, which includes the procedures to follow and the agencies to notify if there are concerns or allegations about adults working with children.	07/03/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY557175
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	10202382
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	32
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Hanley Crouch Community Association Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP520623
Telephone number	02072631067
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Hanley Crouch Community Association registered in 2018. The out-of-school provision is situated in the Brickworks Community Centre in the London Borough of Islington. The provider employs three staff members to work with the children. All staff hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. Staff are supported by the centre manager and there are two regular volunteers, who work alongside the employed staff. The club provides after-school care until 6pm, from Monday to Friday during term times. It also operates a holiday club each weekday, from 8am to 6pm during school holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Sarah Crawford

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider has received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with leaders and has taken this into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information received about this provider.
- The manager showed the inspector around the premises; they discussed how the club is organised and the experiences they provide for children.
- Parents, staff and children shared their views with the inspector at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector met with leaders to discuss issues, such as the recruitment, training and support for staff.
- The inspector looked at some of the club's documents, including safeguarding policies, staff suitability checks and paediatric first-aid certificates.

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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