

Inspection of Wethersfield Before And After School Club

The Green, Wethersfield, Braintree, Essex CM7 4EB

Inspection date:

28 April 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (enforcement)

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

Summary of key findings

This provision does not meet requirements

- The provider, who is also the manager, does not have a secure knowledge and understanding of the requirements of her registration. There are several breaches to the statutory requirements of the early years foundation stage and the compulsory part of the Childcare register. These breaches have a significant impact on children's safety and well-being.
- The provider does not understand the importance of being fully alert to any issues of concern in children's lives at home or elsewhere. She assumes that other professionals, such as school staff, take the lead responsibility to safeguard children. As an example, she does not recognise the need to record or monitor any existing injuries that children may have when they arrive at her setting. This compromises her ability to monitor children's safety and welfare.
- Staff do not have a secure and up to date safeguarding knowledge. Although the provider and her deputy manager have attended safeguarding training, they are unable to demonstrate a secure understanding of how to implement this in practice. They do not have an understanding of wider safeguarding issues, such as extremism and peer-on-peer abuse. Consequently, they are not able to recognise and act on possible signs and symptoms of all types of child protection concerns. In addition, the provider has failed to ensure completion of designated safeguarding lead training (DSL). This is a breach of requirement and a safeguarding concern.
- The provider's husband, who is a member of staff, also acts as the named deputy manager. The provider, who is the, untrained, designated lead for safeguarding, demonstrates a poor understanding of her responsibility to safeguard the children in her care. In addition, neither of them takes into consideration that potential safeguarding issues can impact a wide cross section of society, including children and families who attend the provision. This has a significant impact on children's safety.
- The provider does not evaluate her provision effectively to identify areas that are not meeting requirements. The provider and her deputy do not undertake ongoing, targeted professional development opportunities to promote improvement of their knowledge, skills and understanding, in order to continuously develop and extend experiences for children.
- The paediatric first-aid certificates for all staff, including the provider, have expired. As a result, the provider cannot ensure that there is at least one person with a valid paediatric first aid certificate (PFA) at the provision with children at all times; or when children are on outings or being transported to and from school. This significantly compromises children's safety and well-being as staff cannot be assured that they are providing the most up-to-date care in the event of an emergency.
- The provider has not ensured that records are easily accessible and available for inspection purpose. This is with particular regard to insurance documents for vehicles in which children are being transported.
- Through discussion, the provider demonstrates a poor knowledge of the

necessary records to be kept. For example, she does not understand the importance of consistently checking and maintaining records that require personal information for all children are in her care. This compromises her ability to protect children's well-being.

- The provider understands the importance of working in partnership with parents. She talks confidently about how she communicates with them. The provider demonstrates how she shares information with parents about their children's experiences, through monthly newsletters.
- The provider talks confidently about how she plans activities that reflect the interests of children who attend the provision. She understands how to promote children's good health. For instance, she describes how she plans to provide various opportunities to promote their physical well-being, and the importance of providing children with healthy, nutritious meals and snacks.

There were no children in the early years age range present when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no early years children present, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states whether the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

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
be alert to any issues of concern in a child's life at home or elsewhere in order liaise with other professionals and raise any safeguarding concerns swiftly	26/05/2022
ensure that the named lead practitioner for safeguarding attends appropriate training to enable them to fully understand their role and take responsibility for safeguarding children	26/05/2022
ensure the provider and all staff have a thorough understanding of the safeguarding policy and procedures	26/05/2022

make certain that the provider and all staff have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues, including 'Prevent' Duty guidance	26/05/2022
undertake suitable professional development opportunities to ensure that requirements are met and the provision for children continually improves	26/05/2022
put in place appropriate arrangements for the supervision of staff who have contact with children to promote effective support and training to foster continuous improvement	26/05/2022
ensure that a valid paediatric first-aid certificate is in place, which meets the criteria set out in Annex A of the statutory framework for the early years foundation stage	26/05/2022
provide evidence of adequate insurance for any vehicle used to transport children	26/05/2022
ensure records are easily accessible and available for inspection purposes	26/05/2022

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register, the provider must:

	Due date
ensure all required personal information is kept about each child being cared for.	26/05/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	2534367
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10208545
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	5 to 11
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	21
Name of registered person	Brignull-Harvey, Deborah
Registered person unique reference number	2534366
Telephone number	07763802551
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Wethersfield Before And After School Club registered in 2019. The club employs two members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during school term times. Sessions are from 7am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Marisa White

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 met with the provider's to discuss her understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements, and to check if all the legal requirements were met.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including the provider's qualifications and training, and evidence of the suitability of the provider and her deputy manager.

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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