

Inspection of Hedgehogs at Stoke Park

Stoke Park County Junior School, Underwood Road, EASTLEIGH, Hampshire SO50 6GR

Inspection date:

5 May 2022

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

Children are extremely happy in the care of the warm and nurturing staff team. They greet staff with a welcoming smile and their friends with a huge hug. Children excitedly talk about their day and listen to what their friends have to say. They negotiate well with others and discuss who is going to take the lead on their way to their base room. Children know their routines well. They know to put away their bags, wash their hands and wait patiently in the queue ready for their snack.

Children's laughter can be heard in all areas of the club. They delight in activities such as limbo and have a great deal of fun. Staff are extremely tuned in to the needs of the children. They know when to join in their play or when to stand back and allow children's imaginations to flourish. For example, they sought the advice of children and asked them whether they would like music as part of their activity. Children develop new skills and practise moving in different ways. They count their scores and use language in their play, such as 'higher' and 'lower'. Children experiment and adapt activities, changing their game of limbo to high jump. They are exceptionally confident and are developing important future life skills.

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

- Staff are passionate about their work with children and about providing high-quality care. They reflect carefully on the standard of experiences they provide, and adapt the planning to ensure children's ideas are consistently embedded in the club.
- Staff make good use of children's play to strengthen their communication and language development. They respect children as unique individuals and seek their views in different ways. For example, on the day of the inspection, children designed and completed their own 'all about me' forms. They discussed with staff and their friends' activities they enjoyed, their different skills and things they were not so keen on. Children of all ages listen to others and clearly value the ideas and opinions of their friends.
- Staff promote children's health and well-being well. For example, they have recently introduced a water butt and children can independently access a drink at any time. Children take part in many physical activities. They know to drink plenty of water to stay hydrated. Children demonstrate a positive attitude towards healthy food. They make independent choices from the variety of nutritious snacks available.
- Children make independent decisions in their play from the vast array of activities available to them. They benefit from a staff team that value their skills and interests and have put aside their activities so they can continue where they left off from the day before.

- Staff promote children's physical skills well. For instance, children enjoy competitive games, such as football and cricket. They build on their core strength as they pull themselves up ropes and along equipment. Children dress up in a variety of different outfits and have a great deal of fun as they practise new dance skills.
- Partnerships with parents and teachers at the schools are strong. Staff seek information about children's interests before they start at the club. They work closely alongside parents and staff at the school to ensure continuity in children's care. This helps them to recognise potential risks to children's health or emotional well-being. Parents are extremely complimentary. They comment that the atmosphere is loving and caring, and staff genuinely care about all the children.
- Staff build on children's understanding of personal safety well. For example, children learn to take safe risks when using apparatus and take parts in emergency evacuation drills. Staff hold quizzes and talk to children about stranger danger. They recognise that they could build on children's awareness of potential risks even further, such as how to stay safe should they use digital media at home.
- The provider and the supervisor support the well-being and professional development of their staff effectively. They observe the staff interacting with children and suggest how they can improve upon their skills. Staff talk positively about the support they receive from the management team.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff place a high priority on providing a secure environment for children. They are careful to check who is present as children move between schools at collection times. Staff carry out their daily procedures diligently to minimise any risks to children's safety. Staff have attended safeguarding training. They have a good understanding of the procedures to follow should there be a concern about a child's well-being. The provider successfully uses different methods to check staff knowledge of all areas of safeguarding, including radicalisation and extremism. He implements thorough recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY452445 |
| Local authority | Hampshire |
| Inspection number | 10228085 |
| 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 | 4 to 11 |
| Total number of places | 25 |
| Number of children on roll | 57 |
| Name of registered person | Extended School Solutions Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP905534 |
| Telephone number | 07746 743172 |
| Date of previous inspection | 6 October 2016 |

Information about this early years setting

Hedgehogs at Stoke Park Junior School registered in 2012. It is one of three privately owned wraparound care settings in the local area. The setting offers wraparound care for children attending Stoke Park Infant and Junior Schools in Eastleigh, Hampshire. It opens each school day from 7.45am to 8.50am and from 3.15pm to 6pm. The provider employs five staff to work with the children. Of these, four hold relevant qualifications at level 3 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jane Franks

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 leaders and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the club.
- The inspector undertook a learning walk around the club with the supervisor. She held regular discussions with the provider, supervisor and staff.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents and took account of their views.
- Evidence of staff suitability and the qualifications of staff working with children were checked by the inspector.
- The inspector looked at the documents available, including children's attendance records, risk assessments, and policies and procedures.

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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