

Inspection of Sporty Scholars Ltd @ Loughton

Loughton Manor First School, Paynes Drive, Loughton, Milton Keynes MK5 8FA

Inspection date:

17 August 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (enforcement)

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Children's safety is compromised. Although children feel safe and secure within the setting, their well-being and safety is put at risk. This is because staff lack critical knowledge and understanding of safeguarding policy and procedures. Despite this, children form good relationships with the staff team. Some staff are attentive to the needs of the younger children and recognise when they may need a little help and encouragement to join in an activity.

Children behave well and listen to the staff, following instructions about what group they are in and where they will do their activities. They enjoy a range of outdoor sport activities along with indoor arts and crafts. Children benefit from three large outdoor areas where they can participate in activities such as football, tennis, and obstacle courses. Younger children grow confidence in their abilities as they tackle the obstacle course and succeed to the end. Older children offer a helping hand to younger children and encourage them to join in their games.

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

- Leaders do not know and fulfil their responsibilities regarding the safe recruitment of staff. For example, the recruitment process is inconsistent and appropriate checks are not completed prior to staff starting work. This poses a risk to children as the suitability of staff is not assured. The leadership team acknowledges the weakness in its processes but failed to put effective strategies in place to mitigate risk to children.
- Staff are not adequately trained to always ensure the safety of children. Induction processes are not effective in training the staff team in how to manage safeguarding concerns. For example, staff do not know the procedure to follow should an allegation be made against a member of staff and how to report it to local safeguarding agencies. They do not receive regular supervision and support from leaders. Furthermore, there are insufficient staff who hold valid first-aid certificates to ensure someone can respond quickly to in an emergency.
- Children behave well. They show respect to each other and wait patiently to take their turn in a group activity. They cheer each other on and celebrate the success of their friends. For example, when playing penalty shootout, they cheer with delight when a friend scores a goal.
- Children separate into age groups and rotate around the various activities with their leaders. They enjoy the variety and engage well in what is on offer for them. However, resources are limited. This means children wait for long periods of time before they can take their turn and share the resources available to them.

- Some staff are attentive to the needs of the children. They recognise when a child may need a cuddle and some support to join in an activity. These staff observe the children at play and act swiftly to ensure all children feel included. They adapt their approach to meet the interests and needs of the children.
- Children generally respond well to the staff caring for them. However, many of the children do not know the names of the adults looking after them and so refer to them as 'teacher'. This highlights the inconsistency of staffing on a day-to-day basis. This hinders children's ability to build bonds and get to know and develop positive relationships with their carers.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider fails to implement robust recruitment processes to ensure children's welfare and safety while at the holiday club. Staff lack basic knowledge and understanding of their duty of care to protect children from risk of harm. They are unclear of the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against a member of staff or how to refer to local safeguarding agencies. Leaders have not ensured staff are adequately trained to recognise signs and indicators of abuse and how to report any concerns. The designated safeguarding lead has not received training to fulfil the role effectively.

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
ensure that all staff recognise the signs and symptoms that a child might be at risk of harm, in order to make timely referrals to local safeguarding children agencies	29/08/2022
implement robust recruitment processes for staff, so checks are consistently carried out to confirm the suitability of those working with the children	29/08/2022

ensure leaders have a robust knowledge of the requirements of the early years foundation stage (EYFS), in order to effectively monitor the provision, remain compliant and ensure children's safety	29/08/2022
ensure that staffing arrangements are suitable to meet the safety and welfare needs of all children at all times during the club's operation	29/08/2022
take into account the layout and size of the provision to ensure adequate number of staff have paediatric first aid	29/08/2022
implement effective arrangements for the support, training and induction of staff.	29/08/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	2666882
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	10249864
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	3 to 11
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	75
Name of registered person	Sporty Scholars Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2666881
Telephone number	07877861112
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Sporty Scholars Ltd @ Loughton registered in 2022. It is based in Milton Keynes. They are open throughout school holidays only, from 8am to 5.30pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lisa Robinson

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 and deputy reviewed the premises and space used for the holiday club.
- The inspector spoke to all staff to assess safeguarding knowledge and skills.
- The inspector and manager had a leadership and management discussion.
- The inspector observed children's play.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022