

# Inspection of Sporty Scholars Ltd @ Flitwick

Templefield Lower School, Malham Close, Flitwick, Bedfordshire MK45 1AJ

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Inspection date:

31 August 2022

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

**This  
inspection**

**Not met (enforcement)**

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Previous  
inspection

Not applicable

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **This provision does not meet requirements**

Inconsistencies in the recruitment process mean that not all staff have their suitability fully checked before they are left unsupervised with children. This poses a risk to children. Despite this, children enjoy attending the club. They form positive attachments to the staff team and make friends with other children.

Children enjoy the range of activities on offer and remain engaged for long periods of time. They respond positively to staff, who support them to develop their skills. For instance, the youngest children use bats and balls outside. Staff demonstrate how to hold the bats properly. This helps children to build on their hand-to-eye coordination.

Children clearly understand the rules that are in place. For example, older children play ball games in the large hall. They remind one another that they need to be careful with the ball so that it does not hit anyone in the head. Staff praise them for their efforts, encouraging them to all participate together and play as part of a team.

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

- Leaders and managers do not consistently follow the recruitment process that they have in place. For example, checks to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles are not always completed before staff start. This presents a potential risk to children's safety and welfare.
- Staff feel well supported in their roles. They discuss their performance with managers. Senior leaders are responsive when staff make requests. For instance, they provide further resources swiftly when staff need them.
- Children behave well and know what staff expect from them. Staff gently support them on the rare occasions that they need reminding of the rules. Staff are well deployed to monitor the children closely. Leaders consider staff's prior experience when assigning them to the different age groups of children. For instance, staff who have experience of working with early years children work with the youngest age group. This utilises staff skills well, and enhances the positive experiences that children receive at the club.
- Parents are complimentary about the service the club provides. They feel that staff and managers are approachable. Staff keep them informed regarding any accidents or incidents. Parents are able to view the activities on offer on the club website. This helps them to stay informed about what their children are doing when they attend the club.
- Leaders are actively involved in the club. They engage with the children during activities. This helps them to understand what children like about the club. This

also helps them to monitor the wider staff team and provide them with immediate feedback and suggestions. This strengthens staff's already good interactions with children.

- The current manager has a positive impact on the club. He is a strong role model for the whole staff team. Children feel reassured by the manager and the wider staff team at the club. For instance, the manager speaks to them compassionately if they become upset during the session. They quickly settle and return to what they were doing.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The lack of consistency in the recruitment process leads to a risk to children. However, the staff team has a secure knowledge of safeguarding. Leaders regularly check staff's knowledge to ensure that it is up to date. Staff complete safeguarding training before they start their roles. They are aware of the possible signs of abuse and neglect. They are able to recognise wider safeguarding issues, such as how to identify children who may be at risk of exposure to extreme views or behaviours. Staff understand the process to follow should they have concerns regarding a colleague. They are confident about how to raise their concerns further to the appropriate agencies should they need to.

## 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:**

	<b>Due date</b>
complete safe recruitment processes consistently to ensure that all staff are suitable for their roles.	29/09/2022

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2666883
<b>Local authority</b>	Central Bedfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10250379
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Out-of-school day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	3 to 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	70
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sporty Scholars Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2666881
<b>Telephone number</b>	07877861112
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Sporty Scholars Ltd @ Flitwick registered in January 2022 and operates on the grounds of Templefield Lower School, Flitwick. They employ seven members of childcare staff. The club operates Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5.30pm, during school holidays. The club is closed for the Christmas holidays.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Jenny Hardy

## 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.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The inspector spoke to parents of children who attend the club. She took their views into consideration.
- The inspector held discussions with leaders, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- A range of documentation was viewed, including staff suitability records and qualification 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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