

# Inspection of Hitchin Fun Club At Highbury School

Highbury Infant School, Standhill Road, HITCHIN, Hertfordshire SG4 9AG

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Inspection date:

19 October 2022

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

**This  
inspection**

**Not met (with actions)**

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Previous  
inspection

Not Met (with actions)

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

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

Management has failed to ensure the suitability of all committee members who are involved in making key decisions relating to the children's welfare and safety. Nevertheless, children happily arrive at the club and are greeted by welcoming staff. They are familiar with the club's routines, such as knowing where to place their personal belongings when they arrive at the school hall. Children have opportunities to select from a range of age-appropriate resources and activities. They immediately socialise with their friends, quickly settle, and demonstrate that they feel safe. Children learn to practise and refine their physical skills during ball games in the playground. They use the chalks to make marks and are shown how to draw different shapes, such as love hearts.

Children work together to solve problems. For example, children work out what pieces of track will enable their toy trains to cross the bridge. Younger children enjoy playing with the baby dolls. They dress the dolls and wrap them in blankets. Children explain that they do this to keep the dolls warm. Children's ongoing literacy development is also encouraged by the staff, who read stories to them.

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

- Management has failed to ensure that suitability checks are completed for a committee member. Despite several reminders, they have not ensured that required information is sent to Ofsted in a timely manner, to enable them to complete their checks.
- Since the last inspection, steps have been taken to increase staff knowledge of child protection procedures. This supports staff to safeguard children in their care. Additionally, changes have been made to the arrangements at the start of the session, and the snack procedures have improved.
- Children enjoy freshly prepared snacks during their time at the club. They sit together and demonstrate good table manners. Staff obtain information from parents about any special dietary requirements, preferences and food allergies before their child attends the club. The provider ensures that all staff are clear about procedures to follow to ensure that children eat the correct food, so that they are kept safe, following a recent incident.
- Staff develop appropriate relationships with the children, are responsive to their needs and join in the children's play. Young children have a designated key person and staff develop sound relationships with teachers at the school. This helps to ensure children's care and further learning opportunities are tailored to each child's individual needs.
- Children learn the rules and boundaries of the club. Children behave appropriately and are respectful of other adults and each other. Children share

resources, listen, and follow instructions. For example, children know that they need to line up sensibly before moving into the dining room for their snack, and that they need to wash their hands in readiness for their snack.

- Children demonstrate pride in their achievements as they use their imagination and share their ideas. They use construction resources to build tall towers, make 'fairy gardens' and enjoy playing with the toy dinosaurs. Younger children use their developing language to describe how they have created a nest for the dinosaur eggs to hatch.
- Parents comment positively about the club. When asked, children are confident to talk about what they are doing at the club. Some children say they like to play with the baby dolls and others say that they like to go outside in the playground to run and play.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Management does not demonstrate a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. They have failed to ensure that suitability checks are completed for all committee members who are involved in decision-making and have access to confidential information. Management and staff recognise different types of abuse and know how to report any concerns they may have about a child in their care. This includes what action to take if an allegation is made against a member of staff. Daily risk assessment checks are completed to ensure the premises and resources used by the children are safe. Staff are deployed effectively to ensure the children's safety and well-being.

## 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
provide required information to Ofsted in a timely manner to ensure suitability checks for committee members are completed.	18/11/2022

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2567156
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10259062
<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>	4 to 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	35
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	52
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Hitchin Fun Club At Highbury School Committee
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2567155
<b>Telephone number</b>	07783027534
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	30 November 2021

## Information about this early years setting

Hitchin Fun Club At Highbury School registered in 2020. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The club opens during term time from Monday to Friday. Sessions are from 3.15pm until 6pm. Additionally, the club opens during school holidays and sessions are from 8.30am until 5.30pm.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Ann Austen

## Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the nominated individual of the committee and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment process, following information we received about the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision with the nominated individual of the committee. They discussed how children are kept safe and the organisation of the club.
- The inspector spoke to the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the club. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation during the inspection.
- Parents shared their views about the club with the inspector.

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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