

Inspection of School Club

The Little School, High Street, Barlborough, Chesterfield S43 4ET

Inspection date:

8 August 2023

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

The provider has failed to make sure that the manager, who is the only staff member, has sufficient knowledge and understanding of the requirements in relation to providing out-of-school and holiday care. For example, the manager's ability to effectively assess risk is weak. Some activities that are available to children, such as using the stage as a play area, introduce unnecessary elements of risk. The manager does not keep abreast of required documentation or have a good enough understanding of the safeguarding practice needed for the safest operation of the club.

The manager knows most of the children who attend very well. However, she does not give enough thought to their current age, interests or development when she chooses resources to put out. Children become bored and boisterous due to a lack of stimulating activities and experiences.

Despite the weaknesses in her overall management of the club, the manager is welcoming and friendly towards the children and they respond positively to her. When the manager interacts with children, they enjoy her playful manner; although, at times, interaction is minimal. Most children know what is available for them to play with. Children are confident to approach the manager, who responds positively to them when they ask for something specific to play with.

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

- The provider does not have a good enough oversight of the club to ensure that the manager is working within the requirements of the early years foundation stage. This has a negative impact on the experiences children have at the club. The manager's poor organisation means that, at times, children miss out on activities they look forward to. For example, the manager did not have enough child car seats in a suitable condition to transport children in a vehicle. As a result, the picnic lunch in a venue away from the club premises that children were looking forward to had to be cancelled.
- The manager does not make sure all the required records and documents relating to the registration are in place. The manager does not always obtain information about a child from their parents to help her to know about the child, their needs and to provide suitable experiences for them. This means she does not have relevant medical information or parental contact details. Records for some existing children are in place, but the manager is unsure if these are up to date. Volunteers who use their cars to transport children do not have the correct insurance to do so.
- The manager knows most of the children who attend the club well. Despite this,

she does not prepare effectively for their attendance. The manager chooses basic activities and asks children what they would like out but she does not extend their play and experience. The youngest children play alone for prolonged periods or follow the older children. However, all children soon become bored and then develop boisterous games that involve chasing around the room. The manager does not intervene to explain about safe play or behaviour expectations.

- The manager does not assess risk effectively. She has taken some action to minimise easily identifiable risks, such as locking doors to prevent children leaving the building. However, the manager does not consider less obvious risks, such as her capacity as a lone worker who has some restricted physical ability to provide first-aid treatment to a child who is lying injured on the ground.
- Children have some experience of finding out about current affairs and life in modern Britain when at the club. They celebrated the coronation of King Charles III and PRIDE month. The manager was unable to explain what children had learned about PRIDE, apart from her providing a leaflet for them. In addition, the manager has a limited understanding of how to help children who speak English as an additional language to benefit from attending the club.
- When they attend the club, children have meals provided by the manager; however, she fails to consider the nutritional value of the food she does provide. Children's meals and snacks contain few portions of fruit and vegetables as a result.
- The manager is unclear on the information that must be shared with Ofsted in relation to the club. Therefore, she fails to inform the provider when they need to make a notification, so that they can fulfil their legal responsibility to notify Ofsted.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The manager, who is also the designated safeguarding lead, does not have a good enough understanding of safeguarding procedures. She is unsure who to report concerns to and when it would be appropriate to speak to parents about concerns regarding their child's welfare. The manager has a limited knowledge of the range of extremist groups that children and their families can be drawn into, or how this might be identified. She does not assess risk in all aspects of the club and its organisation effectively, leading, potentially, to an unsafe environment and unsafe practice.

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
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take steps to ensure that all aspects of the operation of the club are assessed fully for risks, including those associated with staff's ability to physically provide first-aid treatment to children	05/09/2023
ensure that all required information about all children who attend the club is obtained when they start attending and is subsequently kept up to date	05/09/2023
ensure staff know and understand the procedures to follow if there are concerns about the safety and/or welfare of a child who attends the club	05/09/2023
ensure staff gain a greater understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm, in particular the risks associated with the wide range of extremist groups that exist	05/09/2023
provide staff with access to training, support and skills so that they plan to provide interesting daily activities and equipment to support these, such as sufficient, well-maintained child car seats	05/09/2023
ensure that all vehicles used by staff and volunteers to transport children are appropriately insured	05/09/2023
ensure staff implement strategies to help children to understand appropriate behaviour, particularly when they lose interest in what is on offer to them and they become boisterous	05/09/2023
ensure staff provide all children with information about diversity in British society that is appropriate to their ability to understand	05/09/2023
ensure staff provide children with healthy, balanced and nutritious meals	05/09/2023

ensure that the manager knows what Ofsted must be notified about so that legal responsibilities can be fulfilled.	05/09/2023
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Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423278
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10304754
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	4 to 10
Total number of places	35
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	Fairy Tales Day Nursery Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP520220
Telephone number	07444640589
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2017

Information about this early years setting

School Club located in Barlborough, Chesterfield, registered in 2011. There is one member of staff who works directly with the children who has a qualification at level 6. The club also has three volunteer workers. The club opens from Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm. It also provides care during school holidays from 8am until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Smith

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 club.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection and talked about what they enjoy doing at the club.
- The inspector observed interactions between the staff and the children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of people working and volunteering in the club.

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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