

Inspection of Grover Out of School Club

Bedgrove Infant School, Ingram Avenue, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP21 9DJ

Inspection date:

11 September 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 not ensured children's safety, as they have not met all their safeguarding responsibilities. This does not promote children's welfare effectively.

Despite this, children are excited and enthusiastic when they arrive at the club. After they are welcomed by friendly staff, they put their belongings away. Children are eager to start playing with their friends and confidently choose from the many resources available. Activities are well planned to support children's developing skills and to keep them occupied in experiences they enjoy. For example, children say, 'I like coming to the club and playing with the toys here, as it makes me happy.'

Children enjoy time outdoors, where they participate in physical activities, such as riding on bikes and scooters. This supports their balancing and co-ordination skills successfully. Indoors, staff engage children in activities that match their current interests, such as construction blocks and train tracks. Children demonstrate high levels of perseverance and concentration skills, which supports their personal development effectively.

Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour and praise them for their good deeds. As a result, children behave well and are kind and caring towards each other. For example, older children help younger children when they learn to roller skate or if they need help with their reading and writing. This helps them to feel safe and welcome at the club.

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

- The provider understands many of their statutory responsibilities to protect children from harm. However, they do not understand their legal responsibilities to notify Ofsted of significant events. For example, they have failed to notify Ofsted about an allegation against a member of staff. In addition, although they have procedures in place to manage any concerns about staff, they do not always recognise the need to follow these and notify the local authority designated officer in a timely manner. Therefore, safeguarding arrangements are not secure.
- Overall, staff have established good routines. They encourage children to manage their own personal needs at the club, such as handwashing before snack time and pouring their own drinks at mealtimes. The manager is also working on strategies to further develop these independence skills, such as children serving their own food at mealtimes.
- The manager exchanges relevant and valuable information about the children

attending with all staff prior to each session, every day. Nevertheless, the manager is also developing a more effective key-person system to further support children in their care.

- Staff create a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. For example, they are sensitive to the children's needs and feelings and show an interest in their school and home life. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure and have established kind bonds with the staff, who genuinely enjoy playing and having fun with them. This supports their emotional well-being and gives them a strong sense of belonging.
- Staff are deployed effectively to ensure that all children are occupied and included in the games and activities on offer. Consequently, children demonstrate high levels of enjoyment as they learn the rules of new games. For example, children are excited to learn how to play pool with their friends and staff. They chat and laugh together and screech with excitement when they shoot the ball in the hole with their cue. This supports children's hand-to-eye coordination and teaches them the enjoyment of learning new games.
- Parents report that they are happy with the care that their children receive and that their children enjoy the time at the club. The provider gathers valuable information from parents, such as medical and dietary requirements, before children start. Staff exchange information with parents, so they are aware of their children's day at the club and school.
- Partnership working with the local school is strong. School staff exchange relevant information about children with the staff at the club to provide continuity of care. Furthermore, some staff at the club also work at the school and know the children well, which further supports their individual needs.
- Leaders provide staff with training and supervisions on a regular basis. Staff speak positively of the manager and report that they feel well supported. The manager and staff evaluate the provision on a regular basis, through team meetings and with input from parents and children, to further improve the provision.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The provider does not consistently take the necessary steps to notify other agencies about significant incidents or allegations about staff. This has an impact on children's safety. Despite this, staff recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to make a referral, if necessary. Staff attend mandatory safeguarding and first-aid training courses on a regular basis. They are able to recognise the signs of female genital mutilation and extremist views, and they know procedures they need to follow. The setting is risk assessed on a regular basis. Staff practise regular fire drills with the children to ensure the safety of all individuals on the premises.

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
ensure that staff have a full and robust understanding of the procedures they must follow in the event of an allegation or any concerns about staff suitability.	30/11/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	140922
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	10301588
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 11
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	160
Name of registered person	Grover Out of School Club Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP911253
Telephone number	07879 876830
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

Grover Out of School Club registered in 2000. It operates from Bedgrove Infant School in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. The club opens five days a week and offers breakfast and after-school sessions, from 7.15am until 9am and from 3.10pm until 6.30pm, during term time. A playscheme operates from 7.30am to 6pm in the holidays. Eight staff members work directly with the children. Of these, four hold relevant qualifications at level 3, one at level 5 and one at level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katharina Hill

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and have taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector visited all areas of the premises used by the club.
- The inspector spoke to parents, staff and children on the day of the inspection and took their views into account.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact of these.
- Discussions were held with staff about their understanding of safeguarding.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the documentation. This included evidence about suitability and training records.

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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