

Inspection of C.A.T.S Club

Peacehaven Football Club Social Club, Piddinghoe Close, PEACEHAVEN, East Sussex
BN10 8RH

Inspection date:

23 October 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

Children's safety is compromised. Not all staff have a sufficient knowledge of child protection. In addition to this, staff's understanding of risk assessment is poor. As such, hazards are not always identified or minimised. Although the manager does have some systems in place to support staff, they are ineffective. Gaps in staff's knowledge are not accurately identified.

Despite this, children arrive happy and are excited to see their friends. They receive a warm welcome from staff. Children quickly become engaged in various activities that staff carefully set up, incorporating children's individual interests. Staff consider the varied age range of children attending and adapt play and activities to be inclusive to all. Children particularly enjoy independently accessing games with friends. For example, they enthusiastically set up and play board games. They play collaboratively with friends, taking turns and listening to each other's ideas. Children listen to staff and follow instructions. They understand the routine of the club and behave well.

Staff have clear expectations of the children and support them in their play. They make good use of opportunities to communicate with children. Staff encourage them to answer questions, giving them time to pause, think and respond. Children receive encouragement to talk about what they have been learning in school as well as their interests. Staff use this to support and extend children's learning. For example, staff support children to practise their cutting skills, supporting them to hold the scissors correctly. Children are proud of their achievements, seeking out staff who share their enthusiasm. This helps children to feel valued and builds positive bonds between staff and children.

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

- The lead person responsible for safeguarding, who is also the manager, demonstrates a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. However, not all staff know what to do in the event they are concerned about a child, or a colleague's behaviour. This compromises children's safety.
- The manager carries out staff supervision sessions. However, these are not effective. The manager has not identified gaps in staff's knowledge, for instance, in relation to child protection and understanding of risk assessment. New staff have access to policies to read and training to complete. However, the manager does not check that this newly learned information has been understood by these staff. This means staff cannot fulfil their roles and responsibilities, and do not receive targeted coaching to improve their own effectiveness.
- Staff demonstrate some understanding of assessing risk. For example, they

know to remove any broken toys or ensure safety catches are locked on kitchen cupboards. However, risk assessment is ineffective. Hazards in the outdoor area have not been identified. For example, loose, sharp metal on the exterior of the building is exposed to children. In addition, edging on wooden digging areas is broken and splintered, and a fallen metal umbrella stand sticks up in the air, as children run and play next to it. Some areas are unkempt, such as the mud kitchen space. It is littered with other resources and stagnant rainwater left in exposed play trays. This presents a risk to children's safety. Staff do not adequately assess the suitability of the outdoor area or put in place procedures to minimise risks.

- Children's behaviour is good. Staff have a fair and consistent approach to behaviour management. The children talk about the rules they have created together and understand the reasons for these. For example, children talk about how they must not run inside, so they do not hurt themselves. This helps children understand how to keep themselves safe. Older children kindly support younger children to complete some tasks they are finding more difficult. Staff support younger children with minor disputes well. They help them to understand their own emotions through thoughtful discussions. This consistent approach means children know what is expected of them, as well as encouraging all children to be respectful of each other.
- Staff interact with children positively. They are sensitive to children's needs including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). The special educational needs coordinator has good knowledge of how to support children with SEND. They understand the importance of working in partnership with other professionals, schools, and parents. This ensures all children's individual needs are met.
- Children enjoy their healthy snacks and meals at the club. Staff understand the importance of providing a well-balanced, healthy diet. Children's independence is promoted as they independently wash their hands and self-select their own snack.
- The manager demonstrates a reflective and positive attitude to making improvements. She takes prompt and necessary action when significant events occur. For example, the manager had recently reviewed their procedures and practice to ensure children are always well supervised.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's safety is not assured. Some staff do not have sufficient child protection knowledge. These staff are not able to identify potential signs that may indicate a child is at risk from harm. Some staff have no knowledge of local safeguarding partnership arrangements. This means staff do not know where to report concerns about children or in the event of a concern about a colleague's behaviour. Additionally, some staff do not have sufficient knowledge of other safeguarding contexts, such as county lines and radicalisation. This has an impact on staff's ability to keep

children safe. However, staff do encourage children to keep themselves safe, including when online. Children are well supervised during the club, including at mealtimes. The manager has robust recruitment procedures in place and carries out appropriate checks to confirm staff's suitability.

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 all staff receive safeguarding training, including how to identify and respond to concerns about a child or about a colleague's behaviour, in line with local safeguarding partnership guidance and procedures	07/11/2023
develop staff training, support and mentoring to ensure staff have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities and receive appropriate support to develop their individual knowledge and skills	07/11/2023
implement a rigorous system for risk assessment to identify, remove or minimise all risks and hazards to children's and staff's health and safety, specifically in the outdoor environment.	07/11/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY539242
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10313695
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 12
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	200
Name of registered person	Collingwood And Trafalgar School Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP904618
Telephone number	07951878939
Date of previous inspection	27 September 2018

Information about this early years setting

C.A.T.S Club registered in 2016. It operates from the Peacehaven Football Social Club site, which is situated in Peacehaven, East Sussex. It provides before- and after-school provision and a holiday play scheme. The club opens five days a week from 7.30am to 8.45am and 3pm to 6pm, during term time for the before- and after-school provision. The holiday play scheme operates from 7.30am to 6pm during school holidays. There are nine members of staff, five of whom have relevant qualifications between level 3 and level 6.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Natalie Moir

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 viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The manager joined the inspector on a tour and talked to the inspector about what they want their children to learn.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting 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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