

Quackers Out of School Club



School House, Peel Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 2BP

Inspection date 2 March 2015
Previous inspection date 7 July 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff know the children well and are very friendly towards them. Children demonstrate they feel at home in the setting as they move freely around selecting their own activities.
- Staff provide a good range of activities which cater for children's individual needs and support their learning at school. For example, there are lots of books for children to practise their reading skills.
- Children behave very well because staff involve them in setting the rules for behaviour at the club. This fully supports children's awareness of managing their own behaviour.
- Children have full use of the school playground. Staff provide a good range of outdoor activities for the children who enjoy the outdoor space immensely.
- Staff give children's safety high priority. They continually check staff to children ratios to ensure children are safe and well cared for.
- All staff understand their roles and responsibilities in protecting children and adhering to the club's policies and procedures to safeguard children. For example, they vet visitors and people collecting children and record children's existing injuries.
- Staff use good procedures to ensure children are collected on time from the different schools and are delivered safely to the club. There are always two members of staff collecting children from each school to protect staff and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The play room has a cosy feel with lots of table top activities available. However, there is not much floor space for children to spread out with floor based activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- increase the allocation of space given to floor play activities to allow children more room to use large construction resources and extend their role play activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a variety of paperwork including the nursery's safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector talked to managers, staff, children and parents to gain their views of the setting.
- The inspector observed the interaction between staff and children indoors and outside.
- The inspector carried out a short joint observation with one of the providers during the inspection.

Inspector

Linda Coccia

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff provide a good variety of table top activities for children to use, which include a good range of arts and crafts. However, with so many activities available children don't always have the floor space to enjoy using the large construction toys or be able to extend their role play and small world activities. Children help staff create colourful wall displays or choose to make their own pictures. They use a wide range of different stickers, tissue paper and other craft mediums to create with. Staff plan activities to ensure they meet each child's interests and favourite activities. The manager regularly sits with the children to talk about what activities they want provided. In this way she is also able to obtain children's views about the setting and uses these to inform the improvement plans.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children arrive at the setting ready to play. They are caring towards others and competently share toys and games by either including others or waiting to take turns. Children enjoy snack time. They serve themselves from the good range of healthy food provided and pour their own drinks. They use this time effectively to chat to friends and make new friends from other schools. Staff always swap information with teachers about the children's day and talk to the children about any aspects of their day which have upset them. This means that children feel emotionally supported. Parents report that staff keep them informed about their children's activities each day. They share information about children's individual dietary needs as well as any forthcoming events which parents may need to be involved in. Parents are happy that their children find the club a good place to be.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager has recently attended an update training course as designated person. She has subsequently reviewed all safeguarding policies and has made staff more aware of the requirements regarding disqualification and social networking. Good procedures are already in place regarding the staff's use of mobile phones and cameras at the club. This shows that the manager has a good understanding of improving the setting through regular reviews of paperwork and procedures. It also shows that staff training has a good impact on children because staff are more competent in protecting them. The manager effectively monitors staff performance through regular meetings and supervision sessions. They agree training targets to attend courses to benefit the children. They share their learning with other staff at meetings to extend their knowledge of childcare issues.

Setting details

Unique reference number	127475
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	840659
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Quackers Out of School Club Committee
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2011
Telephone number	07989 840188

Quackers Out of School Club opened in 1996 and operates from a Portakabin in the grounds of North Borough Junior School in Maidstone, Kent. The club is open each weekday from 8.30am until 6pm during some school holidays and training days. It also operates an after-school provision during school term time between the hours of 3pm and 6pm each weekday. The club employs eight staff of whom six, including the manager, hold appropriate early years and playwork qualifications at level 3. There are two staff who hold a level 2 qualification.

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