

Stortford KidsOut

Summercroft School, Plaw Hatch Close, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, Hertfordshire, CM23 5BJ



Inspection date	12 January 2016
Previous inspection date	2 July 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The club is effectively managed. The manager ensures that staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities. She monitors staff's practice well to make sure that outcomes for children are good.
- Staff are calm and consistent, providing clear boundaries that help children develop a good understanding of acceptable behaviour. Older children are kind and helpful towards the younger children.
- Staff have a positive relationship with parents and the host school. They work together successfully to promote continuity of care and to ensure children's individual needs are met.
- Children enjoy their time at the club and experience a wide range of activities that follow their interests and complement the learning that takes place at school.
- Staff are enthusiastic play leaders and provide a wide range of good quality resources which children use to explore ideas and learn new skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not replenish or remove activities to ensure children are provided with high-quality play experiences throughout the whole session.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review continually the activities and resources on offer to ensure all children have access to quality experiences from the start to the end of the session.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff working with children and discussed the joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed children in the indoor and outdoor play spaces.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff's suitability and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures to safeguard children's welfare.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the provider of the club.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff during the inspection.

Inspector

Beverley Devlin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good awareness of the correct procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. All the requirements are met well. Staff support each other well and are led by an effective manager. Staff meet regularly with the manager which provides opportunities to discuss their performance and training needs. Staff attend training courses which develop their knowledge and further improve outcomes for children. The club has a good relationship with the host school. They share useful information that helps staff to understand children's current interests. Staff recognise the importance of these relationships to fully promote continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Each child has their own key person who works closely with their parents and the teaching staff in school to ensure that children's individual needs and interests are effectively addressed. Staff are qualified. They have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and how to implement this to support what children are learning in school. Overall, staff are skilled in supporting children and their interactions with them are effective. Children develop high levels of self-esteem and confidence. Staff help children to develop their independence and gain skills to assist them in their future learning. Children enjoy socialising games that help them to develop new friendships. For example, a group of children want to raise money for a chosen charity and are busy making jewellery to sell within their school in the near future.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Good deployment of staff across the setting helps to ensure that children's welfare is supported effectively. Staff are good role models. They treat each other with respect and encourage children to behave well. Children have a good understanding of what is expected from them. They behave and communicate well with others. Staff teach children practical skills and encourage them to be independent. Children are encouraged to serve their own meal from the buffet table of healthy snacks consisting of fruit and vegetables and to tidy away items once they are finished. Children learn about other cultures and festivities, for example, through creative activities. Children learn to be respectful of other people's differences. Children contributed enthusiastically to the inspection process and said that they enjoy attending the club. They said that there is always lots to do and they like all of the staff. Settling-in sessions are flexible, including the opportunity for staff to make a home visit before younger children begin to attend.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY272103
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	860813
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	150
Name of provider	Linda Ann Davies
Date of previous inspection	2 July 2010
Telephone number	07943209732

Stortford KidsOut was registered in 2003 and operates from a separate building in the school grounds. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am to 9am and from 3pm to 6.30pm. The club also operates in the school holidays. There are six members of staff. The manager and three other staff hold suitable qualifications at level 3.

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