

Inspection date	11 January 2017
Previous inspection date	9 May 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
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 requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The provider has not notified Ofsted of changes to the committee within the required timescale or provided the necessary information for them to check the suitability of all members. This is also a breach of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.
- Mealtimes can be a little hectic and children do not always sit down when eating their food, so they do not consistently experience a calm and sociable time when eating.
- Occasionally, staff do not encourage children's independence further because they do things for them that the children could do for themselves, especially at mealtimes.

It has the following strengths

- Children share close, warm relationships with staff and are kind and considerate to one another. They get involved in making the rules of the club and have a strong sense of belonging.
- The management team supports staff well to build effective partnerships with parents and the school so that everyone has a good understanding of each child's individual needs to ensure positive outcomes for children.
- Staff know children well and plan a wide range of activities that children enjoy. Children play in a warm and welcoming environment, and they settle in quickly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and the Childcare Register the provider must:

Due Date

- improve knowledge and understanding of the need to notify Ofsted promptly of any changes, and provide them with the required information to determine the suitability of all committee members. 30/01/2017

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

- review the organisation of mealtimes so that children experience a calmer and more sociable experience
- make the most of opportunities for children to develop further their independence and skills in managing tasks for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager, committee members, and talked to staff and children.
- The inspector and the manager observed children during activities and completed a follow-up discussion about children's learning and progress.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The management team and staff have a good understanding of child protection issues and are aware of the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff monitor children's safety well. For example, they use clear explanations and help children to understand potential hazards. However, the provider has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to members of the committee within the required timescale. This means that Ofsted has not been able to determine the suitability of all committee members. This has no impact on children's safety because committee members and visitors are never on their own with children. The management team involves staff well in the self-evaluation process to identify areas for development and make ongoing improvements. For example, staff now provide parents with more detailed 'all about me' books to complete so that they can get to know the children and provide for their needs more effectively. Staff receive good support to update their knowledge and develop their practice. For example, they have increased children's access to a wider range of creative materials to develop and use their imaginations.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide children with interesting, enjoyable activities which complement their school day. For example, children play outside and organise games of football, or play hide and seek in the wooded area. Staff support children's language skills effectively. For example, they engage children in meaningful conversations and take the time to find out what they have done at school that day. Children explore a variety of art materials and use their imaginations well to make pictures and posters. For example, children excitedly talk to others as they use paint to make handprints to decorate the 'friendship tree'. Children are enthusiastic and motivated to take part. They develop skills and gain confidence, which supports their learning well as they progress through school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. They understand and abide by the rules of the club, which include sharing and taking turns. Children learn the importance of following thorough hygiene routines, such as hand washing before eating and after playing outside. Children develop a good understanding of how to stay healthy. For example, they eat a broad range of nutritious snacks and enjoy regular fresh air and physical activity. Children feel safe and secure in the welcoming environment. They freely choose what they want to do. They enjoy the company of the staff, who are good role models. Children are enthusiastic to help. For example, they tidy away their toys and after snack. Children of all ages play well together. They show a good sense of responsibility and care for others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344319
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	1068817
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 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Sparks Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522295
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2014
Telephone number	07845980041

Sparks registered in 2007 and is situated within the grounds of Stoberry Park School, in Wells, Somerset. The club is open each weekday from 7.30am until 9am and from 3.15pm to 6pm, term time only. A holiday play scheme operates from 8am to 6pm for selected weeks during the school holidays. There are seven members of staff. Of these, one member of staff has qualified teacher status, three members of staff are qualified to level 3 and one to level 2.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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