

Cookies Link Club

Tim Parry Community Centre, Wroxham Road, Great Sankey, Warrington, WA5 3NR



Inspection date

3 June 2015

Previous inspection date

7 December 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 provide a range of challenging experiences and activities that are aimed at children's interests and their differing abilities. This promotes children's confidence and self-esteem.
- Children are motivated and eager to learn. They actively explore the indoor and outdoor environments and are supported by enthusiastic staff. Consequently, they have fun and increase their friendships with others.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents and staff work together to ensure all children thrive and enjoy stimulating learning experiences in the club and at home.
- Staff caring for children at the club are alert to any indications that a child may be suffering from harm and all staff have a clear understanding of processes to follow if a concern is raised about a child's welfare.
- The manager ensures that all staff access supervision, training and ongoing support. As a result, staff are able to enhance their skills and knowledge. This is of benefit to the children and to the quality of the provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always consistently promote children's independence skills. For example, younger children are not regularly given maximum opportunity to choose and select what they want to play with.
- Staff do not always gather sufficient information from parents about their children, on entry to the club, to help the staff best support children's needs from the beginning.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide the younger children with more opportunities to choose and select what they want to play with, to further promote their independence skills so that they direct their own play
- develop ways to strengthen the relationship with parents from the beginning, so that children's individual needs are fully understood from the start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working with children, policies, procedures, risk assessments and the club's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to both children and staff and observed play and learning activities within the main environment and the outdoor environment.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to on the day.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the premises.

Inspector

Alison Regan

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

The manager and staff are well qualified and have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They use their qualifications and knowledge well to provide children with challenging and stimulating activities. Staff offer children any necessary support and encouragement but take care not to intervene unnecessarily in their play and discussions. This contributes well to helping children become independent, active learners. Staff positively interact with children as they ask purposeful questions during a discussion time about staying safe. This means that children are able to develop their speaking, listening and problem-solving skills. As a result, all children are supported to acquire the skills needed for their future learning at school. Staff ensure that parents are well informed about their children's activities and welfare needs. However, the staff do not always discuss with the parents from the start how they intend to support the child during their time in the club. This means that children individual needs are not always understood from the start to ensure children make continued progress in their learning.

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

There is a lovely atmosphere in the club. An effective key-person system is in place and younger children are buddied up with older children from the start. This contributes greatly to children's emotional well-being. Many of the children have formed strong friendships with their peers and good relationships are evident between staff and children. Staff provide clear and consistent rules, which children fully understand. As a result, children's behaviour is good. Children's good health is promoted well. For example, outdoors children enjoy playing football or joining in with a game of skittles with their friends. Staff generally encourage independence throughout the routine. However, at times, staff do not always consistently promote younger children's independence skills. For example, on occasions, staff select the resources for the younger children to play with. As a result, children are not always developing their growing independent skills.

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

The manager has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements the requirements well. There is a set of well-documented policies and procedures which underpin good practice. Risk assessments are carefully carried out, which contribute to keeping children safe. For example, children use tools, such as scissors, with care. The manager uses self-evaluation to identify strengths and areas for future development. The recommendations raised at the last inspection have been addressed, which demonstrates a good capacity for continuous improvement. Partnership working with the host schools is effective. Children are collected from school by the same members of staff. This means that children see a familiar face and there is a consistent and complementary approach to children's learning.

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Setting details

Unique reference number	EY356870
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	857511
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	50
Name of provider	Jacqueline Ann Cook
Date of previous inspection	7 December 2011
Telephone number	07790 040 805

Cookies Link Club was registered in 2007 and is based in Great Sankey, Warrington. The setting employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold an appropriate early years qualifications at level 3, and one at level 4. The out of school club operates from Monday to Friday in term time only, from 7.30am to 9am, and 3pm to 6pm.

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