

Inspection of Hurstbourne Kestrels

Vernham Dean School, Vernham Dean, Andover SP11 0JY

Inspection date:

8 January 2020

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children are keen to attend this small after-school club. They have fun and enjoy their leisure time here. Children show confidence and are warmly greeted by enthusiastic staff. They quickly engage in a range of play activities which stimulate their personal interest. Children build and design elaborate models with a variety of construction sets, explore stories and are very creative using a variety of media and materials. They are clearly happy and very settled at the club. Staff swiftly respond to children's needs and support their emotional and physical well-being effectively. Older children play alongside and support younger children well, helping to form new friendships.

Children relish the range of nutritious snacks and meals provided. They particularly enjoy the social supper time they have with their friends when they all sit down together in a large family group. Staff chat to children and extend their knowledge and interest when they join in children's excitable discussions, for example when children discuss the Easter play they are planning together. Children know and respect the simple rules and boundaries at the club. They listen respectfully as staff help them to consider their safety. For example, when they are leaving the premises or when they play harmoniously together.

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

- Children behave extremely well. Staff have high expectations of children and encourage their positive behaviour through warm praise and encouragement and good role modelling. Overall, children's personal independence is supported well, for example when they leave the room to use the toilet. However, the provider recognises that there is room for children to develop more personal responsibility during everyday routines. For example, during supper time and when children first come into club with their coats and belongings.
- Staff support children effectively as they play. They relate to them extremely well, interact and show a genuine interest in children's imaginative play. Children clearly have strong and trusting relationships with staff and enjoy their company. Older children look to them for guidance and ideas to help them make decisions. For example, when deciding on when to rehearse the Easter play, children come up with a written timetable.
- Staff help children understand about living a healthy lifestyle and developing a good diet. They encourage children to consider trying new tastes and provide a nutritious, hot menu for them to enjoy each day. Parents report that fussy eaters are extending their repertoire of foods. This helps children to develop a positive attitude to being healthy.
- Since registration, the provider has developed some good initiatives to help

promote children's physical development and manage their own safety. For example, once a week they engage in forest school activities in the newly developed, designated garden on the school site. Children learn how to use secateurs safely when they make well-designed Christmas tree decorations. However, the outdoor space adjacent to the club room is not used daily or effectively to support children's physical play.

- Staff involve children in the running of the club. Children make decisions about what activities they would like staff to provide. Staff build on what children enjoy, for example when they brought in a drama teacher to enhance children's acting and role play, developing their ideas and imagination further. Children had a visit from the 'bird man' with owls and kites to extend their understanding of wildlife.
- The staff have built very effective relationships with the school and make sure they complement school through the experiences they offer children at the club. There is regular information-sharing between the staff, head and governors of the school. All have a mutual interest in the running of the club to ensure it fully benefits the children. Parents report that they are very happy with the care and support their children receive from the attentive staff.
- The provider is continually evaluating and improving her setting. She has clear future plans, such as developing documents to capture more succinctly the staff's regular coaching and supervision arrangements. The provider ensures all staff are supported to carry out their roles effectively and enjoy their time working with the children. Regular staff meetings and discussions take place to evaluate practice and play activities. This demonstrates a strong commitment to ensuring the club provides good-quality childcare for children and families in the community.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good understanding of safeguarding and child protection matters. They know the signs that may indicate children's welfare is at risk of harm and the steps to take if they are worried. They understand the importance of swiftly passing on any concerns and keeping good records. The provider ensures staff are suitable to work with children because she carries out robust recruitment procedures. For example, she completes Disclosure and Barring Service and reference checks and a health questionnaire before appointing staff. The provider supports staff to keep their safeguarding knowledge current through attending training. This helps them understand a range of safeguarding issues, including those relating to mental health.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY548318
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10105574
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	5 to 10
Total number of places	15
Number of children on roll	34
Name of registered person	Golding, Tracey Louise
Registered person unique reference number	RP547355
Telephone number	07932210131
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Hurstbourne Kestrels registered in 2017 and is located within Vernham Dean School in Andover. The club operates from 3.30pm to 5.45pm Monday to Thursday, during term time only.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Loraine Wardlaw

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a tour/learning walk with the manager to discuss how the club is organised.
- Observations were made by the inspector on children's play and routines.
- Some parents had a conversation with the inspector to give their feedback on the club.
- The provider and the inspector carried out a joint observation and evaluated what they observed.
- The inspector carried out a leadership and management discussion with the provider and sampled relevant safeguarding documents.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.

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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