

The New Croft Club

Newnham Croft Primary School, Chedworth Street, CAMBRIDGE, CB3 9JF



Inspection date	12 May 2016
Previous inspection date	17 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 partnerships with parents are very good. Parents value the club and firmly believe that their children are safe and well cared for. They comment favourably on the good range of activities and the warm and homely environment.
- Children have good relationships with staff and each other. They negotiate sharing and turn taking independently. There is a good community feel and children respect and care about each other.
- Children benefit from the broad range of enjoyable activities. They particularly enjoy being creative and imaginative. Children comment that they thoroughly enjoy coming to the club, and sometimes do not want to go home when their parents arrive.
- Children have ample opportunities to be active outdoors. They develop their physical skills as, for instance, they use scooters, bicycles and go-carts. Staff support children to take risks as they climb trees or use woodworking tools.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff have a tendency to do things for the children that they can do for themselves. They do not fully encourage children to experiment with different ways of doing things to achieve their aims.
- While staff have regular supervision meetings with the manager, not all have a complete understanding of all of the club's policies and procedures. This means that, occasionally, a few procedures are implemented inconsistently.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to encourage children to carry out tasks for themselves and to find their own solutions to problems they encounter
- enhance arrangements for the supervision of staff so that all policies and procedures are consistently implemented, particularly those relating to children moving between the outdoor areas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children at play and evaluated the quality of their experiences with the manager.
- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to the children.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including staff's suitability and training, some policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding arrangements and safeguarding training with staff and the manager.
- Discussions were held with a number of parents and their views and comments were taken into account.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Recruitment checks are robust and help to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. All staff attend child protection training and have a secure understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. The manager mentors the staff and provides them with regular opportunities to meet with her to decide on future training needs. This results in a team that offers children good quality play experiences. Parents and children are asked for their views on the quality of the provision to help with the club's effective self-evaluation. Staff have a strong connection with the host school. Younger children have their learning needs discussed. There are effective systems to share details of those children who need extra support and care. Children benefit from good use of many parts of the school premises, such as the hall and playgrounds.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children continue to develop the skills they learn in school. They write out captions for their artwork and access books with enjoyment. Staff help children to learn about each other's home lives. For example, they celebrate personal festivals, such as, birthdays, Hanukkah and Eid. Children and staff engage in discussions that support children's growing conversational skills. Innovative art activities, such as using a salad spinner to spread paint, excite the children, encouraging them to have a go and compare their patterns. Staff consult with children about the resources and activities available to them. They plan activities around children's individual interests to help to ensure children have enjoyable and stimulating experiences. Continuous access to the outdoor areas effectively supports children's good health and well-being.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enter the club with enthusiasm and quickly settle to their activities. All young children are allocated a key person when they first join the club. Children and parents provide staff with information about their favourite activities to help with their settling in. Children benefit from healthy foods that reflect their personal preferences. They demonstrate that they understand about good hygiene practice as they wash their hands appropriately. Staff encourage them to follow safety rules as, for example, they use woodworking tools. Children play imaginatively together. They have use of a broad range of dressing-up clothes and become immersed in their pretend play. Children and staff have affectionate relationships. Staff listen attentively as children chatter happily about their day. Children are aware of the expectations of good behaviour. They play cooperatively together across the age range, with older children involving younger ones in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221925
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	854607
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	3 - 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	94
Name of provider	Gil Clasby
Date of previous inspection	17 June 2010
Telephone number	07812 798 195

The New Croft Club opened in 1993 and is privately owned. The club sessions run from 3.10pm to 6.00pm, five days a week during school term times. The club operates during all school holidays from 8.45am to 5.45pm. The club employs 10 members of staff. One member of staff holds a qualification at level 6. Three staff, including the manager, hold childcare or playwork qualifications at level 3. Three members of staff are working towards suitable qualifications. The club supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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