

The DX Holiday Club

Hinxton Village Hall, 51 High Street, Hinxton, SAFFRON WALDEN, Essex
CB10 1QY



Inspection date	20 August 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not Applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- Staff provide extremely well-planned activities that capture children's interests and motivate them to get involved. Children spend prolonged periods taking part in activities that they enjoy immensely. They explore liquid-filled beads, examining closely how these change and expand when added to water. The quality of staff interaction is excellent. They support children's play and help them to achieve their aims.
- Staff are very positive role models. They listen and respond to what children say, supporting them to develop excellent social skills. Well-organised group discussions prompt children to share their knowledge confidently on a wide variety of subjects, including the rules of their club.
- Children learn about the importance of treating others with respect. They are exceptionally happy, settled and well behaved.
- Staff communication with parents is extremely effective. This helps them to meet children's individual needs. Parents describe the staff as very welcoming and dedicated professionals who put their children's interests and safety at the heart of all that they do.
- The manager is diligent. She makes sure that staff have an extremely good understanding of their roles and responsibilities. Staff supervise children well at all times. They risk assess the premises and activities to keep children safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore innovative play opportunities and monitor the impact these have on children's enjoyment and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of staff interaction and play during activities, and assessed the impact this has on children's development.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity and discussed this with the manager.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons working with children. The inspector also discussed with the manager how she reflects on practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through feedback discussions during the inspection process.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have an exceptionally good knowledge of child protection procedures and know exactly what to do if they are concerned about a child's welfare. The manager ensures that all staff and committee members remain up to date in their safeguarding knowledge. Self-evaluation is used very effectively to improve children's care continually. Every day, staff evaluate and discuss what went well and what could be improved. Since registration, staff have increasingly provided children with a wider range of resources and activities. Staff regularly consult with parents and children to seek their ideas and feedback about the club. The manager effectively supports her experienced staff team. She gives very careful attention to their continuing professional development. Staff attend various training courses throughout the year and discuss practice during staff meetings to promote the best possible quality play opportunities. They have recently researched the different dynamics of the play styles of boys and girls and how to support these.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The manager and staff successfully complement what children learn in school. They are exceptionally motivated to continue researching innovative play opportunities. The manager has identified that she can then begin reviewing the impact of these on children's development. Staff provide children with excellent levels of challenge. They give clear explanations to children and are careful to provide thinking time. This enables children to develop their own ideas confidently. They sort and match colours, and thoroughly enjoy taking part in experiments. Children investigate sounds by filling and shaking various containers with liquid beads. They discover that the more they put in the container, the heavier it becomes. In addition, when shaken, the container makes a different sound. Staff provide excellent opportunities for children to make choices. Children share their ideas about themes of the week, such as pirates and mermaids. Children concentrate exceptionally well and play together cooperatively. They collaborate while building highly detailed three-dimensional models using wheels and cogs. Children develop these models for a variety of purposes, using their imagination.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The key-person system effectively meets children's individual needs. Staff make sure all children are included in activities. They collaborate extremely effectively with parents to find out about their children's changing interests and achievements outside of the club. Staff encourage older children to lead group games and support the younger children. Together they learn from each other as they play in harmony. Staff plan an extremely good range of challenging physical activities. These help to encourage children to be active, helping to promote good health. Children eagerly take part in team games outdoors. They thoroughly enjoy using their imagination on the wooden pirate ship and other equipment. Staff encourage children's independence, helping them to learn about assessing risks for themselves. Children are fully involved in all aspects of the day. They help to prepare, serve and eat snacks together. They take the opportunity to share their exciting ideas for play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY537427
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10057017
Type of provision	Out-of-school day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	4 - 14
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	144
Name of registered person	The DX Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP520968
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07855225267

The DX Holiday Club registered in 2016. It is the sister setting of the DX Club that operates from the local primary school and provides before- and after-school care during term time. The holiday club operates from the local village hall and provides care during the school holidays. The provider employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, three staff hold appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens Monday to Friday, during school holidays. Sessions are from 8am to 6pm.

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