

Livingston Village Out of School Club Day Care of Children

Livingston Village Primary School
Kirkton North
Livingston Village
Livingston
EH54 7EQ

Telephone: 01506 417343

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 13 April 2018

Service provided by:
Livingston Village Out of School Club

Service provider number:
SP2010010809

Care service number:
CS2004061193

About the service

Livingston Village Out of School Club, known as 'Little Villagers' is located within the community wing of Livingston Village Primary School. The club also provides a breakfast and holiday club. Children have access to community rooms, school's gym hall and outdoor area. There are toilets adjacent to a community room.

The service is self-funding and is registered as a charity. The club has a newly appointed management committee and they have overall responsibility for the service. A co-ordinator is in place and is accountable to the committee for the daily operation of the service.

The service is registered to provide out of school care for a maximum of 58 children at any one time who are of primary school age.

It is registered to operate during term time from Monday to Thursday 8am to 8.55am and 2.45pm to 6pm. On a Friday from 8am to 8.55am and 12.10pm to 6pm. During the school holidays from Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm. However, the club chooses to close at 5.45 pm. Please check their web site for information.

The service aims to promote the care and education of children requiring out of school hours care. The main objective of the club is to ensure the social welfare and interests of the children in the club.

What people told us

Parents' /carers' comments:

Four parents returned a completed care standard questionnaire and provided the following positive comments:

"Little Villagers is a fantastic after school/holiday club. My child has grown in confidence. They work out a great plan, so the kids are never bored."

"Little Villagers have provided an excellent level of care and support to my child. They are highly professional in their approach, well organised and always look to do the best for the children."

Childrens' comments:

During the inspection we spent time in the service over two sessions. On the first occasion the club was operating their holiday club and on the second visit, an after-school session. We observed children taking part in activities indoors and in the gym hall and taking on key support roles during snack time and games.

We found children to be happy and confident, enjoying activities and the snacks time experience. The children were happy to tell us about the club and the things they enjoyed doing. They told us:

"I like being a volunteer and help at snack time."

"I like drawing and sometimes the ladies will help us."

"We made pizza last week and it was great."

"I like playing outside when it's not raining. When it's raining we get to use the gym and its great fun, playing games."

"My friend is in the club and he's also in the same primary as me."

"The ladies will ask us what we want to do and the things we like to do."

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self-assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their improvement plan submitted to us and discussed this with the co-ordinator. The plan demonstrated their priorities for development and how they were monitoring the quality of the provision within the service. We suggested to the new management committee they revisit the plan to ensure this reflects their aims and objectives.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

What the service does well

Children were welcoming and friendly and understood the club rules. This helped to build positive relationships with one another. Children valued each other's friendships and were keen to introduce us to their friends.

Staff had a caring and sensitive approach and supported children to feel they belonged in the club. We noted when staff collected children from school, children were seen to be genuinely pleased to see staff. Some children cuddled staff and they responded positively. The caring relationship staff have with children helped to keep them happy in the club.

We observed children arriving at the service where they enjoyed choosing from a wide selection of sandwiches, fruit and vegetables. Children were encouraged to volunteer and help during snack time. This supported them to be involved and included in the service.

We could see that group time was a fun time for children. Staff asked children to volunteer and share news with their peer group. One child entertained everyone telling jokes which was appreciated by the children. Some sung songs and shared their achievements. One child had recently won a 'silver medal'. Children valued this time together as they listened to one another. Staff acknowledged their news and achievements. Children were seen to be fully engaged and motivated in their chosen activity.

Children had access to lots of energetic play that supported their health and well-being, indoors and outdoors. We noted they enjoyed using the gym hall and were excited to tell us that they played many types of fun active games. Some took lead roles, and this helped to develop their self-esteem and confidence. Staff positively encouraged children to use self-directed play when attending the service.

The co-ordinator regularly arranged staff meetings and these were useful to staff. Staff told us they were able to discuss and contribute to the meetings, such as, the programme of activities and other important matters. Staff who had been there for a number of years and new staff told us they felt valued and motivated in their role.

All staff had a very good understanding of child protection matters and knew how to keep children safe. The co-ordinator had started to explore the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators. For example, she has just introduced a questionnaire for children that relates to the indicators. The co-ordinator was very motivated in her role and led the team well, which supported very good outcomes for children.

Overall, the service identified through their Improvement Plan their priorities for development. We consider that the co-ordinator and management committee are committed to improving outcomes for children and families.

What the service could do better

We saw some very good systems in place in relation to the evaluation of aspects of the service, such as, children's opinion on activities. Nevertheless, we suggest consideration be given to putting into place a more robust monitoring system. This should include:

- (i) Children's snack time experience to be formally monitored and staff record the outcome. This will help staff see if there are any barriers to children's experience.
- (ii) Children's personal plans to ensure that significant information is recorded. This will ensure that staff provide for the health and welfare of the child.
- (iii) Staff registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). This will ensure that all staff are appropriately registered.
- (iv) The new management committee revisit with the co-ordinator their improvement plan to ensure these are still the main priorities of the club.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
3 Jun 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
22 Feb 2013	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 5 - Very good
29 Jul 2011	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership Not assessed
10 Aug 2010	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership Not assessed
12 Aug 2008	Unannounced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good

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