

# Inspection of Meersbrook Park After School Club

The Pavillion, Meersbrook Park Road, Sheffield S8 9FP

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Inspection date:

5 November 2024

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

**This  
inspection**

**Not met (enforcement)**

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Previous  
inspection

Good

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### This provision does not meet requirements

The committee does not have a secure understanding of changes that must be notified to Ofsted. It does not follow secure vetting procedures for some staff it has recruited and new committee members. Staff are unsure which committee member would take the lead where a possible allegation is made against leaders. Furthermore, the committee does not support leaders through effective supervision arrangements. These weaknesses demonstrate the committee's poor understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the early years foundation stage statutory framework. This does not maintain children's welfare.

That said, children are happy in the care of staff. They enjoy craft activities. For example, children cut and shape rolls of cardboard to make firework creations. They also use these shapes to dip into paint and make marks on paper. Children build good friendships with their peers. They show how they are kind and considerate of each other's feelings. For example, when children are a little upset by the firework sounds outdoors, they show their support and ask if they are 'ok'. Relationships among children and staff reflect a positive and respectful culture.

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

- The committee has not informed Ofsted of a change to the nominated individual, and also of the names of all those who make up the committee. This means that suitability checks have not been completed by Ofsted for these individuals. In addition, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks have not been undertaken for those committee members not known to Ofsted. Although these individuals do not work directly with the children, they do attend meetings about the club and children. Furthermore, the committee has not informed Ofsted of the change to the manager. This demonstrates a poor understanding of its role and responsibilities to maintain children's welfare.
- Additionally, recruitment records are not available for some staff who have worked at the club for some time. That said, leaders can demonstrate appropriate recruitment procedures for new staff who work directly with the children. However, there are no ongoing suitability procedures in place to ensure staff remain suitable to work with children. For example, changes to staff's personal circumstances are not explored.
- Leaders carry out regular supervisions for all staff that work at the club. However, the committee does not ensure that leaders have the same opportunity of mutual support. Despite this, leaders do take positive action to improve experiences for children.
- Staff and those with designated safeguarding lead roles have a good awareness of child protection. However, they are unsure who within the registered body

holds the responsibility to notify Ofsted in the event of a possible allegation being made against adults. This compromises children's safety and well-being.

- Children enjoy outdoor play. They kick footballs and have space to run around. Children stand to watch firework displays coming from nearby homes, and they scream with delight at the sounds they make. Staff deployment is good, and they are always close by to offer support to all children.
- Parents' written comments about staff at the club are positive. They comment on how happy their children are and how they enjoy their time with staff. Parents write how staff help their children to settle in quickly and feel confident and secure in their surroundings.
- Children walk in pairs from school. Staff position themselves at the front, middle and back of the line to ensure children's safety. Children show how they know the routine as they arrive at the club. For example, they hang up their coats and place their bags in the designated area. Children follow good hygiene practices. They wash their hands before sitting with friends and staff to enjoy a healthy snack and drink. This contributes to their developing independence and self-care skills.
- Staff interact well with the children and follow their play ideas. For example, they support children's creative play with dough well. Children enjoy play that helps to enhance their small-muscle skills. For example, they twist small elastic bands to make creations of their choice.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**The provision is not meeting requirements and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.**

**We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:**

|                                                                                                                                                 | Due date   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| ensure that people looking after children are suitable and have the relevant qualifications, training and required checks to fulfil their roles | 19/11/2024 |
| ensure Ofsted has the required information to check the suitability of all individuals who make up the registered body                          | 19/11/2024 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| obtain an enhanced criminal records check for every person aged 16 years and over who works with children                                                                                                                         | 19/11/2024 |
| ensure staff understand their responsibility to disclose any convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands and warnings that may affect their suitability to work with children                                                 | 19/11/2024 |
| record information about staff qualifications and the identity checks and vetting processes that have been completed                                                                                                              | 19/11/2024 |
| put appropriate arrangements in place for the supervision of the manager and foster a culture of mutual support, teamwork and continuous improvement to benefit children further                                                  | 19/11/2024 |
| ensure the registered body understands the safeguarding policy and procedure, in particular the action it must take in response to any allegations made against anyone living on the premises, working or looking after children. | 19/11/2024 |

## Setting details

|                                                    |                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | 300821                                                                            |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Sheffield                                                                         |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10368454                                                                          |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                           | Childcare on non-domestic premises                                                |
| <b>Registers</b>                                   | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Day care type</b>                               | Out-of-school day care                                                            |
| <b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b> | 4 to 10                                                                           |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                      | 42                                                                                |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 109                                                                               |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                   | Meersbrook Park After School Club Committee                                       |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b>   | RP904761                                                                          |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                            | 07462 783181                                                                      |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | 21 March 2019                                                                     |

## Information about this early years setting

Meersbrook Park After School Club registered in 1995. The club employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, three at level 3 and one has qualified teacher status. The club opens Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am to 8.30am and from 3pm to 6pm. A holiday playscheme also runs during the first two weeks of the summer holidays.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Jane Tucker

### Inspection activities

- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- The inspector looked at parents' written views of the club and staff.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.

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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