

Little Oaks After School Club



St. Johns Infant School, West End Road, Mortimer, Berkshire, RG7 3SY

Inspection date 10 March 2015
Previous inspection date 14 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- This is a happy environment where children form positive relationships with staff and their playmates.
- Staff meet children's emotional well-being well. Parents are confident in the good-quality care their children receive at the club and comment that their children often do not want to go home because it is such fun.
- Staff are very conscious of encouraging children's independent play. They provide children with free choice but also encourage them to use their skills to count and use their early writing and reading skills as they play.
- The club is very well organised and the manager and staff understand all of the requirements of registration, and meet them.
- Children enjoy healthy and freshly prepared snacks and drinks throughout the session. They are encouraged to develop their independence skills as they help themselves to snacks and make their own choices from the broad variety available.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children make suggestions about what they would like to play with and staff help them get items from the toys store. However, this is not easy for the youngest children to do as they may not be able to verbalise or see the many items that are available.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop ways to enable the youngest children to consistently choose for themselves what they would like to use from the broad range of resources that are available.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the premises and resources with the manager.
- The inspector observed the children and staff at play.
- The inspector examined records and documents provided by the manager.
- The inspector discussed the club with parents.
- The inspector read the clubs self-evaluation.

Inspector

Lynne Lewington

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how children learn through their play. They provide children with good opportunities to make choices and develop their skills as they have fun with their playmates. For example, they talk to children about Mother's Day and provide suitable resources to make cards. Children design and make their own cards developing a variety of skills as they do so. They are imaginative in their play. They make dens and cooperate with each other as they make room inside for someone else. The children can make choices and request items to play with. Although this is more difficult for the youngest children to do due to the way resources are stored. The manager carefully monitors children's play and interaction. This is to ensure they are all benefiting from the club activities, and are having an opportunity to develop their skills and interests.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

This is a busy, happy environment where every child is a valued individual. Good relationships develop between the children and the staff enabling children to enjoy all that is on offer. Consequently, children are confident and very happy to attend. Parents fully appreciate the warm welcome and ongoing support that they and their children receive. Children behave well; they know the routines and expectations. This means that they develop positive relationships with each other and the staff. Staff are effective role models using good manners and showing genuine interest in the children and their activities. Children's good health and hygiene routines are effectively promoted by the caring staff. Physical activity is encouraged. For example, children set challenges and run on the spot and do star jumps. They tell the adults to count for a minute as they do the exercise. They enjoy outdoor activity most evenings making good use of the school playground.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager and staff are enthusiastic about the service they provide. They work hard to successfully create a safe and fun environment after school. Recruitment procedures are well developed and staff supervision is effective. Systems are in place to identify any training needs. This helps to continuously develop the quality of the club. All staff are encouraged to reflect on the provision and identify ways to continuously improve. This system has led to improvements in the fire drill procedures and the system for storing the children's coats and bags. The children's and parents' views are sought to guide and inform practice. All aspects of safeguarding are understood by staff and effective systems are in place to ensure the security of the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110656
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	845994
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	The Oaks Group Committee
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2011
Telephone number	0118 9332242

Little Oaks After School Club registered in 1999 and is a committee run group based in St John's Infant School in Mortimer, West Berkshire. The club runs Monday to Friday, term time only, from 3.10pm to 6pm. The club employs four members of staff to work with the children. One member of staff holds relevant childcare qualifications to level 3 and two members of staff hold level 2.

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