

Bright Sparks After School Club - Christchurch



St. Josephs RC School, Dorset Road, CHRISTCHURCH, Dorset, BH23 3DA

Inspection date 7 May 2015
Previous inspection date 9 May 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	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		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Staff do not always share information with parents about accidents or injuries sustained by children at the setting. As a result, parents are not aware of the care children may need at home to help ensure their health and welfare.
- The management team does not ensure that they maintain information on-site that includes the names, addresses and contact details of all members of staff. This is also a breach in the requirements of the Childcare Register.
- Children are not assigned a key person to help ensure they settle well at the club and to make sure staff understand and meet their individual needs.
- Staff do not always provide children with as much choice of activities outdoors as they do indoors. This means that, at times, some children are not fully engaged in play.

It has the following strengths

- Staff welcome children's contributions to planning so that, overall, activities reflect children's interests and preferences.
- Arrangements for safeguarding are strong. All staff complete training and have a clear understanding of their individual roles and responsibilities. They are fully aware of the procedures to follow to protect children from harm. Staff recruitment arrangements and ongoing suitability checks help to ensure children's safety and welfare.
- Children take part in team games and group activities which helps them to learn to play well with others. They learn about boundaries and expectations which help to keep them safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- ensure parents are informed of any accidents or injuries sustained by their child and provided with details of any first-aid treatment given
- ensure records that include the name, address and contact details of all those working on the premises, are easily accessible and available for inspection
- ensure each child is assigned a key person.

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

- increase the variety of activities available when children play outdoors.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- keep a record of the name, home address and telephone number of every person working on the premises on which childcare is provided (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of the name, home address and telephone number of every person working on the premises on which childcare is provided (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and the outside learning environment.
- The inspector held meetings at an appropriate time with the registered person.
- The inspector sampled a range of records on the children and documentation to support their welfare.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff suitability and qualifications of practitioners, and reviewed the provider's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection and engaged in discussions with staff and children at appropriate times.

Inspector

Samantha Powis

Inspection findings

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

Children choose what they want to play with and confidently select games from the easily accessible storage units. Staff sit and play with the children. They praise the children's art work and encourage children to take turns in their games. This helps children to feel proud of their achievements and develop positive relationships. Children make suggestions about the activities they would like to take part in. Staff use this information when planning, to ensure children's preferences and interests are reflected. This helps to ensure children are keen to participate in the activities on offer. Staff ensure children have opportunities to play outdoors each day. Most children happily engage in physical team games. However, children who do not want to take part sit and watch, as staff do not always provide enough alternative activities for them to choose from. Staff meet with teaching staff at the school to share information. This helps them to complement the activities children engage in during the school day.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

When children arrive, staff chat to them about their day at school. This provides children with an opportunity to talk about their experiences and share any worries they might have. However, there is no one member of staff identified as their key person. This is a requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage and helps children to settle well, particularly when they first start at the club. Nevertheless, effective arrangements for children's arrival help to keep children safe. Staff promptly complete a register and make sure all children are signed out by parents at the end of the session. Activities help children to learn about keeping safe. For example, children explain in detail what to do in the event of a fire, following a visit from the local fire brigade. All staff are first-aid trained, helping to ensure that any minor injuries are dealt with appropriately. Although accidents are recorded, parents are not always made fully aware of all the details of any injuries sustained by their children. Staff teach children about healthy lifestyles through nutritious refreshments and good hygiene routines.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

Staff attend training, which helps them to promote children's safety. They review their practices and receive support from the local authority. This helped them to address recommendations raised at their last inspection. There have been several changes in staff recently. Although evidence is available of staff suitability, information that includes contact details for all staff is not. Nonetheless, staff keep parents informed of events and changes through newsletters. Parents state that their children enjoy attending and they value the flexible service the club provides.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY437996
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	824311
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	40
Name of provider	Bright Sparks Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2012
Telephone number	07870167769

Bright Sparks After School Club registered in 2011. Bright Sparks is privately owned and is part of a chain of nurseries, and out-of-school and holiday clubs in the local area. It operates from St Josephs RC School in the Somerford area of Christchurch, Dorset. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Opening hours are from 7.45am to 8.45am for the breakfast club and 3pm to 6pm for the after-school club. A team of three staff work with the children. The manager and one member of staff are qualified to Level 3 and one member of staff is working towards a Level 2 qualification.

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