

The Ark After School Club

St Bede C of E Primary School, Gordon Road, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 7DD



Inspection date

8 July 2015

Previous inspection date

14 December 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

- Children are all happy and confident in this after school setting where they undertake a broad variety of interesting activities. Children develop their social and physical skills particularly well.
- Behaviour is good because staff are effective role models using good manners and showing genuine interest in the children and their activities. Independence is encouraged and children help each other.
- Staff implement requirements well. They know children's physical care needs and meet these well.
- Staff are knowledgeable about all aspects of safeguarding. They know what action to take to report concerns if they are concerned about a child, so children's welfare is promoted well.
- Parents comment very positively about the provision. They like the variety of activities children experience and the freedom they have to make choices in their play. Staff keep parents very well informed of children's experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- While hygiene is good and helps maintain children's good health, there is scope to build on children's awareness of good hygiene practices.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- find ways to further promote children's awareness of good hygiene practices.

Inspection activities

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

Children are well motivated and are eager to play in this happy club. Staff provide children with many opportunities to make choices as they have fun. For example, they talk to children about what they would like to do and help them to get the resources they need to extend their play. This support helps children to be imaginative in their play. Children move freely between the indoor and outdoor environments as they wish. For example, they play tabletop games and draw in addition to participating in physical activities. Art and craft activities are popular and children participate enthusiastically. Staff interact well with the children, joining in games and also knowing when to let children guide their own play. Children cooperate with each other and invite other children to play. Staff carefully monitor children's play to ensure they are all benefiting from the club's activities and are included.

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

Staff value the individuality of each child. They know that some children are hungry as soon as they arrive and want to eat. The snack table is ready for children's arrival from school where they help themselves to a healthy snack of fruit or a sandwich, for example. This time encourages children to develop their independence; for example, they make choices for themselves and prepare their snacks. Staff supervise and help children if necessary but they do not always model the best hygiene practices to children. The good relationships between the children and staff enable children to enjoy all the activities available. As a result, children are self-confident, secure and happy to attend. They know the club's rules and are actively encouraged to respect each other and the resources. Children behave well. They promote safety by sometimes reminding each other of what to do, so have skills to help take them through school.

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

Staff are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the service they provide. Training opportunities increase their skills and help them to remain motivated. For example, staff have increased their understanding of providing for children's physical play. They diligently provide a safe and fun environment. Leaders use their qualifications to oversee robust recruitment procedures, and staff supervision is effective. Leaders strive to continuously develop the quality of the provision through checking it and identifying any staff training needs. Leaders have addressed the issue raised at the previous inspection. Changes made since that inspection have helped to maintain the club's service at the same high standard. The views of staff, parents and children are sought to help evaluate the service provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY281515
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	837456
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	75
Name of provider	The Ark After School Club
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2011
Telephone number	07749625017

The Ark After School Club registered in 2004. It operates from St Bede's Church of England Primary School in Winchester. The club operates before school on Mondays to Fridays from 7.45am until 9.30am. After school sessions are on Mondays to Thursdays from 3.20pm until 6pm and until 5pm on Fridays, during school terms. There are 10 members of staff, of whom five staff hold relevant qualifications.

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