

The Larks Out of School Club



St Barbara's Hall, Gore Road, Lark Hill, Salisbury, SP4 8NN

Inspection date

16 July 2015

Previous inspection date

19 March 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 thoroughly enjoy attending the club. They form warm and trusting relationships with the staff, which successfully supports children's physical and emotional well-being.
- Staff provide a wide range of activities based on children's interests which they enjoy. As a result, children are keen to join in and remain busy in purposeful play. Overall, the quality of teaching and learning is good.
- Strong links with the primary school and nursery ensure that there is a regular exchange of information. This means that staff are able to build on children's interests and learning at other settings to provide support and continuity.
- Staff regularly review the quality of the provision and make plans for continual improvement. For example, they have introduced a new system so that children can independently choose from the range of resources in their free play.
- There are thorough safeguarding procedures in place. Staff know and understand their roles in keeping children safe and are clear on the reporting procedure to follow.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Overall, there is a good range of toys and resources. However, there are limited toys and resources to support children's understanding of other communities, cultures and experiences.
- Children have some opportunities for physical exercise and learn new skills, such as skipping. However, staff do not consistently make the most of the large hall and inside space to encourage children to be physically active.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the range of resources available to support children's understanding of diversity and difference in the world around them
- make better use of the space available to provide more opportunities for the children to be physically active.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and staff interaction.
- The inspector talked with the staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's and staff records.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents from written comments and those spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Michelle Tuck

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy, settled and enthusiastic about attending the club. They thoroughly enjoy the company of the staff, engaging in lively conversations with them. Staff support children's communication and language skills effectively through asking questions to extend children's thinking and providing explanations to extend their learning. At the inspection, children painted and decorated silhouettes of themselves. They dressed up as princesses and superheroes, and used their imaginations well as they acted out different scenarios. Children of all ages played well together, becoming so engrossed in their play they protested when it was time to leave. In addition, staff listened to children read and helped them with their homework. This contributes towards the progress they make and prepares them for moving on in their learning.

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

Staff are very good role models to children in regards to behaviour and social skills. They actively listen to the children when they speak, showing genuine interest in what they have to say. This boosts children's confidence and self-esteem. Staff teach the children about healthy lifestyles. They follow thorough hygiene routines and understand the importance of hand washing before eating. Staff use specific activities to discuss fire drills and the purpose of these. This encourages children to think about their own safety.

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

The management and staff have addressed the weaknesses from the last inspection and made significant improvements. Staff now have a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. All staff are qualified in first aid. This provides them with the knowledge to deal with medical emergencies efficiently. Staff meet children's individual care and learning needs successfully through an effective key-person system. Staff are encouraged to continue their professional development, through completing appropriate courses and qualifications. They use the internet to research ideas for activities for the children. As a result, they have increased their resources for creative play. The manager uses supervision meetings effectively to discuss practice and children's progress. Staff now provide children with healthy snacks, which promote healthy eating. Children are polite, kind and show respect towards adults and each other. They have good relationships with the staff and want to make them happy. Therefore, they behave well. Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents comment positively on the friendly staff and the enjoyment that their children get from attending the club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447319
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	1010768
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	Michelle Louise Whatton
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2015
Telephone number	01980 258831

The Larks Out of School Club registered in 2008 and moved to its current premises in 2012. It operates from St. Barbara Hall in Lark Hill, near Salisbury. Children do not have access to outdoor space. The club opens each weekday during term time from 7.30am to 8.45am, and from 3pm to 5.30pm. The owner/manager and one member of staff work directly with the children. The owner/manager holds a relevant qualification at level 5.

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