

Inspection date

17 July 2015

Previous inspection date

10 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

- Staff are clearly motivated towards ongoing improvements to the club to develop the outcomes for children. They have made good progress since the last inspection. Managers closely monitor all aspects of the provision to maintain high standards.
- Good relationships are in place between children and staff. Children behave well. They are happy at the club and confidently approach staff for help.
- Staff have attended safeguarding training and know what to do if they have a concern about a child. The manager carries out effective risk assessments to minimise hazards. There is a clear policy in place for the safe use of mobile telephones. Children play and learn in a safe and secure environment.
- Children are kind and considerate to one another. They make friends easily and readily take on the responsibility for small tasks. As a result, they are independent, confident and responsible. Children enjoy being at the out-of-school club and have fun with their friends in a relaxed environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, staff do not provide opportunities to fully promote children's sense of responsibility and independence skills.
- Children do not always have enough opportunities to develop their creative and imaginative play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities to promote children's sense of responsibility and independence skills
- increase opportunities for children to extend their imaginative creativity.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed staff and children in their indoor and outdoor activities.
- The inspector checked required documentation and safety of the premises.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff's suitability and qualifications. She viewed recruitment records for staff.
- The inspector viewed the self-evaluation document.
- The inspector spoke to members of staff, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection and held meetings with the club manager.

Inspector

Susan Rogers

Inspection findings

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

Staff are well qualified and use their good teaching skills to provide children with challenge and interesting learning experiences. Children enjoy a range of activities that meet their individual needs and complement their learning in school and their continuing good progress. Children are included in planning activities as staff involve them in discussions about which activities they prefer. Staff provide the materials and encouragement, so that children develop their independence but they discuss with staff how to problem solve. Children decide to make cakes using breakfast cereal and chocolate to take home. This helps promote their physical skills as they learn how scoop the mixture into cases and measure out ingredients with reasonable accuracy. Consequently, children are strongly motivated to learn and develop a good range of skills with a positive attitude. Positive relationships with parents promote children's continuity in their learning.

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

Staff know the children well and ensure their emotional needs are effectively promoted. Children's behaviour is good. They are warm and friendly towards each other. Children readily include each other in their play and activities. They follow good hygiene routines and enjoy healthy snacks and meals, which helps develop their understanding of a healthy lifestyle. However, children do not always have enough opportunities to develop their growing sense of responsibility and ability to do things for themselves. For example, during snack time, staff are busy with domestic tasks and spend less time encouraging children's self-help skills. Children exercise outdoors in the fresh air, enjoying team games and ball games, which helps promote their physical skills. Sometimes, children have fewer opportunities to develop their creative skills and fully enjoy imaginary play experiences. Children are confident and eagerly lead activities. The familiar routines help them feel safe and they enjoy their time at the club.

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

Staff are committed to ensuring that children are safeguarded and protected against harm. Since the last inspection, the club has moved from the school hall to the children's centre in the school. This provides better facilities for children and has significantly improved safety and security. There is now an effective mobile telephone policy. Staff and parents do not use their mobile telephones for the duration of the sessions. They frequently update their knowledge through training. Robust recruitment ensures that all staff are suitable for their role. Staff ensure they complete regular risk assessments to keep children safe. There is an effective and well-documented drive for continued improvement. Staff share all planned areas for improvement with parents through discussions and newsletters. Parents speak highly of the club and feel that staff are very supportive. Staff effectively share information about children's individual needs and activities. They share information between teachers and parents and are effective in creating secure partnerships with teaching staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY289286
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1009710
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	54
Name of provider	Elaine Willan
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2015
Telephone number	07746290204

Little Academy was registered in 2004. The club employs four members of staff, all of whom hold relevant qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 8.45am and from 3.30pm until 5.30pm.

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