The Den



St. Johns Mead C of E VC Primary School, Hounds Road, Chipping Sodbury, Bristol, BS37 6EE

Inspection date27 OctobPrevious inspection date3 June 2			
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Managers have made significant improvements for safeguarding since the last inspection. All staff have attended training and know what to do in the event of concerns about children's welfare. Staff know how to keep children very safe.
- Staff give children reminders to respect each other and to take care not to knock younger children when using bikes and scooters, for example. Children learn how to manage risks as they play and keep themselves safe.
- Staff's good communication with children helps them to think, use their imaginations and work through problems. Children confidently express their ideas and interact with others.
- Managers make effective evaluations of practice and supervise staff well. Children benefit from well-organised activities. They are motivated to join in.
- Staff are good role models offering support and guidance when things go wrong. For example, children learn to handle minor disagreements and older children help the younger ones to work together.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers miss some opportunities for staff to share good practice and information from training they attend to help everyone develop their skills and knowledge further.
- Managers miss some opportunities for parents and children to make their views known about the setting to involve them in identifying and supporting ongoing improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use all opportunities for staff to share knowledge and new information from training to enhance the skills of all staff and the quality of experiences for children
- build on the ways in which parents and children can contribute to the self-evaluation process to continue improving the provision.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with one of the joint managers.
- The inspector held a meeting with both managers to discuss self-evaluation, improvements made since the last inspection, and leadership and management of the provision.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled paperwork including safeguarding policies, records of staff suitability, systems for monitoring staff performance, health and safety arrangements and children's records.

Inspector

Anita McKelvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The managers have made significant changes to monitoring staff and evaluating the provision. They carry out evaluations and have comprehensive systems for monitoring and supervising the staff and the setting. Staff have development plans relating to their individual training needs to extend their knowledge and skills. Children benefit from well-planned activities and experiences that meet their needs. Managers and staff make sure children's safety is paramount. For example, managers have added an expandable fence to ensure outdoor play areas are secure and keep children safe. Staff complete safety checks to ensure the premises are safe for children to use. They share safety messages with children and help them assess risks for themselves, such as when using climbing equipment and the balance bars. Managers and staff know what to do in the event of any child protection concerns about a child. Staff escort all children between the school and the club to keep them safe. Staff have a register of who to expect so they can act quickly if a child does not turn up or they have any concerns about attendance. Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff form positive partnerships with parents and the school to provide children with continuity.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children choose what they want to do from the varied resources available to them. Staff help children to work together. For example, when younger children want to join in board games, staff help all ages to play well together. They encourage children to share and take turns. Children learn to respect each other and think about one another's feelings. For example, older children built a den for the younger ones and supervised how they used this, following their own rules and making sure everyone had a turn. Children use their imagination and creativity. They have a variety of materials, pens, glue and stickers to make masks and model spiders. They choose how they will make them and show pleasure in sharing their creations with staff.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and enjoy their time at the club. Children form good relationships with staff. Staff offer praise and encouragement for children's efforts to help boost their self-esteem and confidence. Staff support children's health and well-being effectively. For example, they encourage children to talk about healthy food and drink choices at snack time. Staff plan activities linked to different festivals and celebrations. This helps children learn about other cultures, share experiences and learn respect for others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440269
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1017359
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	The Den Partnership
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2015
Telephone number	07791165559

The Den breakfast, after school and holiday club registered in 2012. It operates from St John's Mead Church of England Primary School in Chipping Sodbury. The club is open from 7am until 8.50am and from 3.15pm until 6pm on weekdays during school terms. The holiday club opens from 7am until 6pm during most school holidays. The club employs six staff; of these, one member of staff holds a qualification at level 6 and the remaining all hold appropriate qualifications at level 3.

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