

Whittlesford Out of School Club



William Westley C of E Primary School, Mill Lane, Whittlesford, CAMBRIDGE, CB22 4NE

Inspection date 7 January 2016
Previous inspection date 9 July 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Committee members, managers and staff work as a very effective team. They are highly motivated and demonstrate a clear drive towards promoting excellence in all areas.
- Children of all ages thoroughly enjoy their time in this warm and friendly club. There are many available resources and varied well-planned activities that enable them to explore their own ideas and extend their knowledge.
- Staff's practice is exemplary. They enable children to decide on the content and form of their play, while offering helpful, friendly support when it is needed or asked for.
- Extremely close two-way partnerships with the primary school teachers and support staff help to ensure exceptional continuity of care and learning for all children.
- Children behave exceptionally well. Older children help younger children and they play harmoniously together. Children devise their own rules that encourage respect and tolerance for others.
- Children show high levels of self-reliance. They are actively involved in planning activities and deciding on new resources. They plan their own healthy menus and take responsibility for assessing and minimising risks.
- Younger children's play and learning records, which staff have chosen to maintain, are meticulously kept. They are a result of a highly effective collaboration from staff, children, parents and teachers. The records provide a marvellous insight into children's time in the club and provide a valuable reference tool for future planning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to enhance the already innovative outdoor provision so that children who prefer to be outside have every opportunity to extend their enjoyment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children during their activities. She spoke to staff about how they support children in their play.
- The inspector spoke with representatives of the management committee and the manager at convenient times.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including evidence of the suitability of staff and committee members, children's records and the club's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke with several parents and looked at the results of parents' surveys to gain their views.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The leadership and management of the club is exemplary at all levels. Staff are well practised in Playwork and have a complementary mix of qualifications and experience. The management committee enthusiastically supports ongoing training. Arrangements for handing over management of the club to new committee members are clear and consistent. This helps to ensure that inexperienced members quickly develop a comprehensive understanding of their responsibilities. Managers and staff are forward thinking and continuously reflect on how the excellent practice at the club can be enhanced. Safeguarding is effective. All staff attend child protection training and have an exceptional understanding of the procedures in place to protect children. Secure arrangements with the school help to ensure that any vulnerable children receive the support they need.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children freely access a well-stocked resource cupboard and make independent choices about their play. They cooperate extremely well to decide on future activities through discussion and the use of written play plans. The outdoor area is continuously available. Children have a thoroughly good time as they explore in the dark with glow sticks and torches. Recent innovations include an all-weather play area and a mud kitchen. Staff continue to seek children's ideas to enhance the outdoor provision still further. Indoors, a peaceful area enables children to snuggle down into cushions and duvets. They share books and enjoy relaxed conversations with their friends. Staff have a genuine interest in children. They listen to them, help them to clarify their thinking and extend their ideas. Children happily play together, joining in cooperative activities, such as making complex models from small construction sets.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff have very high expectations of the children and give them lots of responsibility. For example, children prepare their own healthy snacks after assessing the risks of using the sharp knives to cut cheese and fruit. Children have an excellent understanding of their boundaries and understand where they can play safely. Children help to plan ambitious outings that enable them to explore the wider world. For instance, they learn about space at the science museum and visit wildlife parks. Topics about their own religions, languages and family backgrounds help children to explore their individual differences. They make sweets for Diwali and learn about Hanukkah. Parents are fully involved in all aspects of their children's time in the club. They access and share information about their children online and have an informative noticeboard that is updated daily. Parents are delighted with the club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350671
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	863342
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 14
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	134
Name of provider	Whittlesford Out of School Club Committee
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2012
Telephone number	01223 832 176

Whittlesford Out of School Club is managed as a registered charity by a voluntary management committee. Opening times are 7.30am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6pm each weekday during term time. The club is open through all school holidays, subject to parental demand from 8am to 6pm. The club employs nine members of staff. Of these, four hold appropriate childcare or Playwork qualifications at level 3 and two hold level 2.

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