

Oscar @ St Marys

St. Marys C of E Primary School, Queen Street, KINGSWINFORD, West Midlands, DY6 7AQ



Inspection date	24 March 2016
Previous inspection date	6 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Staff provide children with a range of interesting activities and join in with children's play. Activities are linked to children's interests and complement activities that take place in school.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents speak highly about the friendly and welcoming club. Staff have a good understanding of children's individual needs.
- Children enjoy attending the club and have built secure relationships with staff and other children. They arrive happily and quickly settle in their play. Staff are kind and caring, helping to promote children's emotional well-being.
- There is effective monitoring and self-evaluation. The views of staff, parents and children are considered to identify the strengths of the club and areas for further development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not organised resources and activities well enough to make sure that young children can easily make choices for themselves about what to do or play with.
- The current arrangements for professional development do not focus sufficiently on raising the quality of adult interactions to a level where children gain as much as possible from their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide younger children with more opportunities to make choices in their play
- focus professional development on providing staff with more opportunities to develop their skills in supporting children's play even more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Improvements have been made since the last inspection. Managers have reviewed the deployment of staff and children are now well supervised throughout the session. Effective links are established with the host school. Staff regularly talk to teachers and gain information about topics covered in class. This information is used by staff to help plan activities, complementing children's learning in school. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They are aware of the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. They understand the procedure to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Recruitment and monitoring procedures are used well to help check that all adults working in the setting are suitable to work with children. The manager conducts regular supervision meetings with staff. This gives staff opportunities to discuss any concerns or issues and provides the manager with an effective way to monitor their practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have fun and enjoy the time they spend in the happy and friendly club. Staff greet children when they first arrive. They chat to them about their day at school and what they have been doing at home since the last time they were at the club. Staff engage well with children's chosen play. They play snooker with the children and help them to understand the rules, such as turn taking. Staff place great importance on helping children to build upon the skills they need for school. Children are encouraged to be independent and to take care of their own needs. Children's physical skills are promoted well. Children have daily opportunities to spend time outdoors where they can run, climb, balance and negotiate space. Children's communication and language skills are promoted well. Staff engage children in meaningful conversations and encourage them to listen to each other when talking in group situations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Key persons provide good support to young children when they first start at the club and on an ongoing basis. Parents comment that they also feel supported by their child's key person and that staff are kind, caring and nurture the children. Children's confidence and self-esteem are built very well. Staff offer children praise and encouragement for their efforts. Staff provide children with quiet areas where they can rest after a busy day at school. Children behave well, learn to respect each other and consider the needs of others as they play. Younger children look up to older children and they enjoy playing and making friendships with their older peers. Staff encourage children to learn about the importance of healthy lifestyles. Children are reminded about the importance of good handwashing routines. Healthy snacks and drinks are provided and children are encouraged to help to prepare and serve these.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY453903
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	1041621
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 - 11
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	Julie Anne Rawlings
Date of previous inspection	6 June 2013
Telephone number	07739012212

Oscar @ St Marys was registered in 2012. The after-school club employs three members of childcare staff, including the provider. Two members of staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3 and the provider has Early Years Professional status. The after-school club opens Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 3.15pm until 6pm.

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