

The Childcare Club at St. Mary's

St Mary's RC Primary School, Cobden Road, Worthing, BN11 4BD



Inspection date	5 April 2016
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- The management team has established good processes for monitoring and promoting the professional development of staff. Children benefit from staff's increasing skills and knowledge.
- Staff introduce exciting new initiatives that interest children and build on their skills. For example, staff use outings to the beach to strengthen children's interest in writing and awareness of the natural world.
- Children behave well and form strong relationships with each other and with adults. They have a good understanding of the rules of the setting and these help promote mutual respect and safety.
- Young children settle quickly in the club and show a strong sense of belonging. They enjoy a wide variety of challenging activities and resources.
- Staff form good partnerships with parents and teachers. They regularly exchange relevant information that contributes to continuity in children's care and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, large group activities do not engage the full interest of younger children.
- Staff do not always ensure the environment meets the needs of younger children as effectively as for older children. For example, they do not always have a comfortable area to go to relax uninterrupted and enjoy quieter activities, such as looking at books.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the organisation of some large group activities to help ensure young children are engaged, challenged and interested
- strengthen opportunities for young children to relax uninterrupted and enjoy quieter activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation.
- The inspector held meetings with the owner, and talked to staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection and from written feedback.

Inspector

Alison Weaver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The owner carries out thorough recruitment procedures that help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. She completes robust inductions on new staff and makes sure they are fully aware of their role and responsibilities. For example, all staff complete safeguarding training and are made fully aware of what to do if they have a child protection concern. The owner is enthusiastic and keen for staff to continue to improve their already good practice. The use of self-reflection and effective evaluation, that includes the views of parents and children, enables staff to continue to enhance children's play experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff make sure they provide resources that generally reflect children's current interests well. They continue to strengthen the skills children need to secure their future learning. Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the club. They play independently and initiate their own play. Caring and supportive staff are always on hand to develop children's play when needed. For example, staff come alongside children to involve them in purposeful play, such as a hide-and-seek game with toy animals. They ask questions and make suggestions to help children plan and carry out their games. Children confidently talk about what they are doing and share their experiences with staff and each other. They enjoy a wide range of craft activities, such as making bird feeders using cereal hoops. Children enjoy threading objects together, for example, when they make patterns as they thread different coloured cereal hoops on pipe cleaners. Staff keep parents well informed about their children's day, progress and welfare. For example, they use informative and interesting scrapbooks for each child, showing what they have enjoyed and achieved.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The key-person system works effectively. Each child has a special person who actively promotes children's emotional well-being and sense of belonging. Children are confident and show they feel secure in the friendly and relaxed environment. Overall, children of differing ages play and mix well together. For example, older children show an interest in the younger ones and involve them in their play. Staff promote children's health effectively. For example, children enjoy healthy snacks and follow good personal hygiene routines. Children enjoy a wide variety of physical exercise, both indoors and outdoors. Staff give high priority to keeping children safe. For example, they competently assess and minimise risks to children. Staff make good use of everyday opportunities to teach children how to be safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY479129
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	981491
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	3 - 8
Total number of places	80
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	The Childcare Club (Worthing) Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07920 030569

The Childcare Club at St Mary's registered in 2014. It operates from St Mary's Roman Catholic School in Worthing, West Sussex. The holiday club opens every weekday from 8am to 6pm, in all school holidays apart from Christmas. The breakfast club operates from 7.40am to 8.40am every weekday during school term times. The after-school club operates from 2.50pm to 6pm every weekday during school term times. The club employs 11 staff; of whom, nine staff, including the manager, hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 and level 3.

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