

The Day Nursery in Towcester After School Club



Towcester Church of England Primary School, Islington Road, Towcester,
Northamptonshire, NN12 6AU

Inspection date	29 April 2016
Previous inspection date	13 March 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

- The management team is working consistently to make significant improvements to the club's practice. Self-evaluation demonstrates that managers and staff have a positive attitude to the development of the provision. They have effectively implemented and embedded improvements to fulfil all of the actions and recommendations from the previous inspection.
- Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how children learn. They liaise with the schools that children attend. They link their own planning to the schools' current topics for younger children, enabling them to complement children's experiences effectively.
- Staff are friendly and caring. They follow children's interests and support their ideas, keeping children enthused and engaged. Children have fun and really enjoy their time at the club.
- Staff recognise the importance of working in partnership with parents. They keep parents well informed about their child's time at the club. Staff promote a two-way flow of information, contributing to a shared approach to the support that children receive.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Systems of performance management for staff have not been exploited to identify and share good practice and help raise the standards within the provision even higher.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen systems for the performance management of staff, in order to identify and share high-quality practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the main playroom and the outside learning environment, and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager of the provision. She spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection, when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and planning documentation, the setting's risk assessment and safety records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working within the setting, the provider's evidence of self-evaluation and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Children are well protected by thorough risk assessments and clear procedures, ensuring that they are consistently well cared for and closely supervised. They are supported to develop an understanding of how to take measured risks, particularly when using the extensive outdoor facilities. The management team ensures that it keeps abreast of changes to legislation and shares these with the staff team. Managers undertake discussions and meetings with staff so that they can offer support and monitor their performance. They are aware of the importance of ensuring that the staff team remains skilled and knowledgeable. They support staff to attend regular training and ongoing professional development opportunities. Staff work closely with the other settings in their group to share good practice ideas and enhance their provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff plan interesting activities that motivate children to be creative. Children spend considerable periods of time engaged in junk modelling and exploring art materials focused on a spring theme. Staff use probing questions to effectively stimulate children's thinking. They develop their ideas and encourage younger children's use of descriptive language. Staff suggest possible techniques and other ideas, highlighting the exploration by older children as an example. They discuss the trees outside, prompting children to look out of the window at the tree shapes, branches and spring blossom. Staff extend this further by emulating the shapes of the branches with their hands. Children manipulate their cardboard structures to mimic these shapes. They are very pleased with the effect and smile at staff proudly, revelling in their praise.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and relaxed and enjoy the company of other children and the staff at the club. Children form positive, trusting and secure relationships with staff. They receive praise for their achievements and are gently guided by staff to respect their peers and maintain a good level of behaviour. Children are encouraged to be independent and take care of their personal belongings. They develop a sense of responsibility, confidently tidying away resources or helping themselves to food at mealtimes. Children have good opportunities to be physically active in the spacious school hall or outside on the school playground and field. Younger and older children alike are successfully challenged as they negotiate the different spaces and levels of the equipment. Staff are attentive and spend time supporting children in their play. They stimulate children's curiosity and then follow children's interests, for instance, as they create designs and sculptures with sticks. Staff help children to adapt skipping rope games to the varying ages of the children playing. They differentiate the level of challenge as children skip or jump lower, higher or longer. This motivates children very well and inspires others to join in. Children have fun, develop their skills and proudly share their achievements.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY390527
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1041449
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	30
Number of children on roll	93
Name of provider	Christina Margaret Alexandrou
Date of previous inspection	13 March 2013
Telephone number	01327359647

The Day Nursery in Towcester After School Club was registered in 2009 and is one of four privately owned settings. The club employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday. Sessions are from 8am until 8.45am and from 3.25pm until 5.45pm, during term time. The club also operates from 8am until 6pm in the school holidays.

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