

Inspection date	2 June 2016
Previous inspection date	26 January 2015

	This inspection:	Good	2
The quality and standards of the early years provision			
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	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 manager uses accurate and targeted self-evaluation to monitor the quality of the provision. She uses feedback from children, staff and parents to identify any areas for improvement and make positive changes. There have been significant improvements since the last inspection.
- There is a very strong focus on promoting children's physical health and well-being through active play. The outdoor play facilities are excellent. Children spend a great period of time outdoors exploring in the nature area, playing physical games on the large fields, making dens and climbing trees.
- Experienced and highly qualified staff use their knowledge of young children's development well. They plan rich and varied experiences to motivate and engage all children. Children are happy, content and demonstrate that they have a wonderful time at the club.
- Children learn good social skills, which contributes towards their future learning in school. Staff are great role models who encourage children to share and take turns. Older children considerably support younger children during activities and routines. Children are well mannered and behave extremely well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff are supported to gain further qualifications and training, systems do not offer consistent opportunities for them to share their skills and knowledge with each other.
- Sometimes, staff do not provide children with a quiet area or space to rest and relax.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide opportunities for staff to learn from each other and share their skills and expertise that improves practice to the highest level
- develop the area available for rest and relaxation that helps children to engage in quiet activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the club, observed play and learning opportunities for children and spoke to the manager, staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, discussed the club's self-evaluation and action plans, policies and procedures and checked evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of a selection of parents through written documentation obtained prior to inspection.

Inspector

Layla Davies

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. A secure entry system prevents unauthorised access to the club. Recruitment procedures are robust. Staff are thoroughly vetted to ensure they are suitable to work with children. Daily checks on the environment and risk assessments on equipment are implemented well by staff. All staff are trained in child protection procedures and paediatric first aid. This contributes towards keeping children safe. Overall, the manager provides good support to staff through supervision meetings and observations of their practice. This helps to ensure they have the skills needed to meet all children's needs. Partnership working with parents and school teachers is strong. Staff find out about children's individual capabilities and school themes. They use this information effectively to provide activities to complement children's current interests and learning in school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The environment is organised so that children have access to a variety of interesting and stimulating toys and equipment. Staff help children to develop awareness of technology. A favourite activity is playing on hand-held games. Children develop excellent writing skills. There is an array of mark-making tools available. Children write lists and letters, and older children capably use twigs to spell out words during outdoor play. Children construct pieces of large branches as they make a limbo den to climb under. They collect grass to make the area safe, should someone fall over. This demonstrates how children are learning to be considerate and think about safety and risk. Children's imagination is well fostered. They enjoy playing hide and seek, delighting as staff pretend to be the hungry tiger who is seeking them out. Staff skilfully introduce counting into daily routines, which helps children's mathematical awareness. Children are provided with many opportunities to be creative. They dress up, play in the well-resourced role play area and make musical instruments using rice. They have fun making sounds with them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There is a cheerful atmosphere and staff and children thoroughly enjoy their time together. Staff are very responsive to all children, which helps them to develop high levels of self-esteem. The key-person system is effective. Consistent staff collect younger children from their classrooms, which helps to support children's emotional security. Staff value children's input and they make many independent choices in their play. Staff use a raffle ticket system and award a star of the week certificate to acknowledge children's positive behaviour. This helps to boost their confidence. Snacks are healthy and well balanced. Staff reinforce positive hygiene routines and encourage self-help skills, which contributes towards children's good health and independence. Children confidently use climbing apparatus, including large tyres. They enjoy games of tennis and eagerly catch frisbees as staff throw them in the air.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY308045
Local authority	Oldham
Inspection number	1041389
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 - 10
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Squirrels Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903419
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2015
Telephone number	07967005109

Springhead was registered in 2005. There are five members of childcare staff employed to work at the club, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 to 4. The club is open during term time, Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm. During school holidays the club is open Monday to Friday from 7.30pm to 6pm.

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