

Space Cadets

Staffordshire County Council, Squirrel Hayes County First School, Springfield Road,
Stoke On Trent, ST8 7DF



Inspection date

Previous inspection date

4 August 2016

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

- Children are cared for by warm and welcoming staff. Consequently, children develop strong emotional attachments with the adults around them. Staff are positive role models for children's behaviour. This helps to develop children's positive behaviour and empathy for other children.
- Children demonstrate high levels of confidence and self-esteem as they enjoy performing in front of, and alongside, their friends. They giggle and laugh as they take turns, dance and sing along to their favourite songs on the karaoke machine. This effectively fosters and enhances children's creativity skills.
- The self-evaluation processes are good and include all staff, parents and their children. This helps to ensure identified improvements have a positive impact on children's care and learning.
- Partnerships between the staff and parents are effective. Staff gain important information about children's likes, dislikes and interests. This helps to make sure that activities are suitably challenging for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not yet developed strong relationships with the schools that children attend so that there is the strongest shared approach to children's learning and care.
- Staff do not provide the same level of opportunity for children who prefer to learn outdoors as that which is available for children who prefer to play and learn indoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the links with the schools that children attend to promote a more shared approach to children's care and learning
- provide further opportunities for children who like to play outdoors to build successfully on their learning in their preferred environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the registered person.
- The inspector held a meeting with the registered person. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the provision's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the premises.
- The inspector spoke to the staff during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Mary Henderson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The registered person makes sure that all staff receive periodic, confidential, one-to-one meetings. This provides staff with the opportunity to discuss their training needs as well as any issues that may be concerning them. The registered person observes staff teaching practice and is a positive role model for them so that their practice continues to be good. Staff attend child protection training. This makes sure all adults working with children know what to do and who to contact should they have a concern about any child in their care. Risk assessments are conducted by the staff in all the indoor and outdoor areas and all outings off the premises. This helps to keep children safe and well.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children's interest in the world around them is effectively supported by the staff. Children visit the local nature reserve where they talk about the plants and wildlife around them. To extend children's interests, staff invite the 'animal man' into the setting. Children enjoy a talk about the various habitats of wildlife animals, including owls, reptiles and exotic insects, and where they originate from. Children extend their computer skills using various programmes that support many areas of their learning, including their interest in information, communication and technology. During such times staff use praise and encouragement, which encourages children's 'can do' attitude and raises their confidence and sense of belonging to the setting. Staff support children to begin to recognise and read their own name. They encourage children to access both fiction and non-fiction books. This helps to develop their interest in books thereby effectively fostering the important skills in literacy needed for school. Children are motivated by staff to explore. Children enjoy arts and crafts activities as they use a range of tools to explore and manipulate dough and create their own pictures using paints. Staff know children well and use this knowledge and a range of teaching techniques to support and further enhance their development. These are some of the activities that promote children's continued readiness for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn about the importance of a healthy diet and lifestyle. They talk with the staff about making healthy choices during mealtimes. Staff motivate children and make good use of equipment, praise and encouragement to help children develop their learning over time. Children take manageable risks in their play. They enjoy playing team games with their friends in the indoor and outdoor areas. Children are encouraged, through positive role modelling and reminders, to use their manners during their mealtimes and play activities. Staff provide positive images with regard to resources and activities that effectively promote children's awareness of diversity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494736
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	1030462
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 12
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	40
Name of registered person	Krystle Wendy Morton
Registered person unique reference number	RP906397
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07757954919 or 07500803876

Space Cadets was registered in 2015. The out-of-school club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. During term time, sessions are from 7.20am to 9am and 3pm to 6.15pm. The club also opens during school holidays from 7.20am until 6.15pm.

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