

Squidge Kids

Chalkridge Primary School, Sullivan Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG22 4ER



Inspection date

29 September 2016

Previous inspection date

2 October 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The provider monitors children's progress exceedingly well. She provides an inspiring range of activities that is matched well to children's specific interests and needs. Children develop excellent social skills and self-confidence as they have a go at different activities with children of different ages.
- Staff are exceptionally well trained in child protection procedures and know how to record and report any concerns they may have about a child's welfare.
- The provider's journey to becoming outstanding is built on a firm foundation of high expectations of herself and of the children and their families. She checks her provision precisely and meticulously, and focuses on specific areas for improvement.
- Staff develop children's thinking and understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy through very well-planned role-play activities. For example, children use foam hoses as they pretend to be firefighters and learn about dental hygiene as they create a dentist's surgery.
- Parents are extremely complimentary about the consistency staff provide in children's care. They say staff are highly effective in linking their children's school day with their home life, and that staff offer just the right balance between supporting homework and giving children time to play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement plans to help all children to resolve minor conflicts with minimal adult support and share these with parents to support further continuity in their care.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed care routines and activities, and the impact of these on children's safety, welfare and enjoyment.
- The inspector reviewed records and procedures relating to safeguarding, risk assessment, and health and safety. She discussed a range of other procedures relating to children's welfare with the provider.
- The inspector looked at how the provider exchanges information with parents.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and reviewed written communications from parents.
- The inspector spoke with the provider about the impact of her training, experience and practice on children's well-being.

Inspector

Helen Robinshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager uses her extensive knowledge of the early years exceptionally well to provide a very high-quality after-school club. For example, children's care and activities are underpinned by a thorough understanding of current legislation, guidance and practice in child development. The manager's leadership is strong, calm and very effective. She inspires a dedicated and enthusiastic staff team to continually raise standards. For instance, staff continue to invest time in their own professional development and use the sharply focused reviews of their work to improve the quality of their interactions with children. Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures staff follow thorough daily risk assessments and procedures to minimise children being at risk of harm. All the staff hold current first-aid certificates and respond quickly and appropriately to children's healthcare needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children, parents and other professionals contribute to the provider's highly detailed evaluation of the club. Children suggest and vote on ideas for forthcoming activities. Staff help children prepare and explore different roles and responsibilities they see in the people and communities around them. For example, children locate, make resources for and act out their experiences of visiting different shops, hair salons and public places. Staff use their excellent partnerships with staff at the host school to provide any additional programmes of support children may need to develop their skills and self-confidence. Staff are highly successful as they support and nurture children's imaginative play and critical thinking. For instance, they provide and supervise daily access to the computer suite, craft materials and different small-world constructions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

New children quickly settle and adjust to slightly different rules as they explore familiar areas of the school grounds. Older children show respect, care and kindness as they include younger friends in conversations around the snack table and as they learn to play new ball games. Parents say they are delighted with the diverse range of foods their children enjoy as they consider healthy choices and different traditions around the world. Children generally behave extremely well. They are relaxed, enthusiastic about their time together and enjoy the excellent range of activities available. On occasion, children need different levels of support to learn to manage their feelings and behaviour appropriately in new situations. The manager identifies this as an area for continued focus. She has an excellent understanding of inclusion and a determination to ensure all children feel welcome and flourish at the club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435430
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	1059055
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 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	55
Name of registered person	Natalie Jan Manners-Brown
Registered person unique reference number	RP516074
Date of previous inspection	2 October 2012
Telephone number	01256 461 733

Squidge Kids After School registered in 2011. The after-school club is located in Chalk Ridge School in Basingstoke, Hampshire and operates daily during school terms from 3pm until 6pm. Four staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above. The manager has recently completed a diploma in early years management.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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