

School's Out

Swaffham Prior Village Hall, High Street, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge, CB25 0LD



Inspection date

11 October 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

- Children have built a good rapport with staff. They say they like coming to the club and find the activities interesting and stimulating.
- Children's voices and opinions are valued. They have many opportunities to express their ideas and choose their own activities.
- Children benefit from continuous access to the outdoors. They play exuberantly, learn to climb trees safely and create imaginative dens from various materials.
- The owners are ambitious and committed to the success of the club. They regularly ask parents, staff and children for their views in order to ensure continuous improvement.
- Strong partnerships with the two feeder schools promotes children's safety and sense of security. Staff find out about lesson plans and current topics to extend and complement children's learning experiences in school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Managers do not consistently gather initial information from parents about their children's home experiences, to plan more effectively to meet children's needs from the outset.
- The arrangements for staff monitoring and supervision do not yet focus on staff practice and the quality of their interactions with children, to help raise their skills to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for parents to contribute what they know about their children's home experiences and aptitudes when they first start, to enhance the initial planning for their individual needs
- extend the arrangements for monitoring and supervision to specifically focus on the quality of staff practice in order to raise the quality of their interactions with children to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of children's activities and their interactions with staff. A specific activity was discussed with the providers, who also manage the club.
- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to the children.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including staff suitability and training, some policies and procedures and children's records. The club's self-evaluation was looked at and discussed with the providers.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding arrangements and safeguarding training with staff and the providers.
- Discussions were held with a number of parents and their views and comments were taken into account.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Managers and staff have a secure understanding of how to keep children safe. They regularly attend child protection training and know the current procedures to follow if there are concerns about a child's welfare. Staff carry out daily risk assessments to help ensure the premises are safe and secure. Children make their own assessments to improve their understanding of safety. Staff work closely with other professionals, including teachers at the two main feeder schools. Qualified and experienced staff provide effective one-to-one support for children who have special educational needs or disability. Parents comment on the inclusive environment that means all children play together and are equally valued and respected.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a welcoming environment for children. Children of different ages interact well with each other. They have plenty of toys and resources to choose from, some of which the children's council has personally selected. Photographs in a planning book remind children of activities and resources they have enjoyed previously, widening their choices. Staff provide opportunities for children to learn about their own and other communities. Children take part in local fundraising and meet members of the charities they have helped. The local police community support officers visit and teach children about the work they do. Staff and children engage in games together and have good relationships. Children learn new skills, such as knitting or baking. Such activities help to promote their dexterity and small-muscle coordination and their growing awareness of healthy eating.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

All children, regardless of age, are allocated a key person who is responsible for getting to know each child and their family. Children are highly confident and demonstrate respect and trust for the adults around them. Staff have helped children to formulate their own fair rules, which has helped to develop consistently good behaviour. While boisterous and lively, children are still aware of being careful to respect each other's boundaries. They negotiate sharing and turn taking confidently. Children plan menus and prepare their own snacks. They work well with staff to ensure food is interesting, appealing and healthy. Parents are extremely positive about the club. They praise the staff for their good relationships with their children. Parents firmly believe that their children are safe and well cared for.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481871
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	992361
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 - 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	School's Out Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP905542
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07847415390

School's Out was re-registered in 2014 due to a change of ownership. The club is privately owned. There are eight members of childcare staff including the owners. Of these, four hold relevant qualifications at level 3. Opening times are 7.30am to 8.45am and 3pm until 6pm each weekday during school term times. The holiday club operates for four weeks in the summer term from 8am to 6pm. During other school holidays the club operates subject to parental demand. The club supports children who have special educational needs or disability.

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