

Inspection date

5 December 2016

Previous inspection date

27 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	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 dedicated and passionate manager is committed to offering the very best out-of-school provision for children and their families. She evaluates the quality of the club regularly. The manager considers the views of staff, parents and children when planning future changes which benefit children. Actions from the last inspection have been addressed.
- Staff provide children with a range of stimulating activities, both inside and outdoors. Children are well supported in making choices about what they would like to play with.
- Staff consult children when planning activities and take their ideas into account. This contributes to children's good levels of engagement, interest and enthusiasm for the activities provided.
- Staff talk to parents regularly about things which affect their child and inform them about activities their child has enjoyed.
- Staff work in close partnership with the headteacher and staff in the host school. This helps to ensure that the needs of all children are very well met. Their learning in school is thoroughly complemented and supported when they attend the club.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some staff do not consistently recognise opportunities to support children to think critically and solve problems for themselves as they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- recognise and make the most of opportunities that support children in developing their already good critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

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 held a meeting with the club manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the club's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager works closely with the headteacher of the host school to ensure children are very well protected. All staff have a good understanding of the safeguarding policy and procedures. They can identify the possible signs of abuse and know who to contact should they have concerns about the welfare of a child. Staff complete regular checks of the environment to ensure it remains safe and any potential risks are minimised. The manager has a good understanding of things which must be reported to Ofsted. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children. The manager regularly observes staff and makes suggestions on how they can improve their practice further. She meets with them to discuss aspects of their role. This helps her to plan future training and professional development opportunities, ensuring their knowledge and skills remain up to date. For example, the manager is currently supporting staff to increase their level of qualifications.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well. They encourage children to make decisions about what they would like to play with. Staff talk to children about what they are doing, in order to develop their learning further. Overall, staff support children's learning well. They ask questions, in order to challenge them in their learning. Staff observe children and share significant observations with teachers in school. Staff sit with children and demonstrate how to use resources as they make a variety of Christmas cards and decorations. Staff are always on hand to offer praise and encouragement when needed. Younger children are supported by their older friends to search for numbers as they play number games. Staff teach children to take turns and abide by the rules as they engage in a variety of board games. Children enjoy a wide variety of regular outdoor opportunities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children describe how they enjoy attending the club and particularly appreciate the variety of activities on offer. Children are happy and play confidently in this very busy club. Staff are good role models and effectively support children in managing their behaviour. Children are fully involved in developing club rules and understand the high expectations staff have of their behaviour. Children of all ages play very well together and are considerate of each other. They share and take turns, welcoming each other into their play. Children are very well supported in developing their relationships with each other. Staff work well with parents. Children and their parents are offered flexible support when they first begin to attend the club to ensure that their needs are met. Children are effectively supported to celebrate diversity and recognise and value the differences between themselves and others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	316787
Local authority	Bury
Inspection number	1058136
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	72
Number of children on roll	124
Name of registered person	Smarties
Registered person unique reference number	RP518330
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2015
Telephone number	0161 773 1432 or 07779 966357

Smarties was registered in 1998. The club employs 11 members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club operates from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 8.55am and 3.30pm until 5.30pm.

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