

# Big Otters

South Otterington C of E Primary School, South Otterington, NORTHALLERTON,  
North Yorkshire, DL7 9HD



## Inspection date

Previous inspection date

19 January 2017

27 February 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Good relationships are shared between staff and children. The atmosphere at the club is friendly, relaxed and fun. Children feel comfortable to communicate freely with staff.
- Children are very well behaved and develop strong friendships. Staff have high expectations and provide a consistent approach to managing children's behaviour. Children learn to respect and value others. They work and play harmoniously and offer each other support and encouragement.
- Children have a lot of opportunities to be physically active and they particularly enjoy playing games outdoors. They are provided with space and comfort to rest and relax if they wish to do so.
- Children's experiences are significantly enhanced by the strong two-way communication between the club and the school. High-quality information is regularly shared between the manager and the Reception teacher to support children's emotional well-being and learning.
- Parents hold staff in high regard. They comment that the level of service provided is excellent and communication from staff is first-rate.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager has not yet fully implemented a carefully targeted programme of supervision for all staff, in order to further raise the quality of practice to an even higher level.
- The system for self-evaluation is not yet rigorous enough to identify all areas for improvement.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the programme for supervision of staff to help their skills and develop the quality of practice to an even higher level
- develop self-evaluation further to clearly identify areas for future development.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises.
- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the provider. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### Inspector

Eileen Grimes

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager places a strong emphasis on safeguarding. She trains staff to understand that safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. All staff know what may cause them concern about a child and what to do if they are concerned. The manager keeps up to date with the local authority's procedures to help keep children safe. She has undertaken a variety of training, including safer recruitment. Robust arrangements are in place for the safe movement of children from school to the club. Children are consistently well supervised by staff. The manager ensures that there is always a member of staff available who has a current paediatric first-aid certificate. Risk assessments are undertaken to help minimise potential hazards and any accidents are dealt with and reported effectively.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The key-person system is highly effective and staff know individual children very well. Superb liaison between the club and the school helps to ensure that children's needs are consistently met. Staff have a strong focus, overall, on children's next steps for development and their interests. They observe children and monitor their progress. Staff share this information regularly with the Reception teacher and parents. The club is an integral part of the extended school day. Staff help children to practise the skills, values and attitudes that they learn in school. Children are confident, happy and talkative. Staff provide activities and experiences where children learn to share and take turns. They encourage children to take responsibility and tidy up the play environment at the end of the session. Staff communicate with parents in a variety of ways. For example, they take time to speak with each parent every day. Information from school is communicated effectively and parents are kept informed about children's experiences at the club.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Clear routines are in place and children are motivated to undertake care tasks independently. Staff have high expectations that complement those of the school. Children are encouraged to listen to what they are being told. They are given clear instructions to follow to help keep them safe. Staff provide regular praise as well as support and reassurance where required. Children's positive cooperation is encouraged at all times. For example, staff remind older children to be mindful of younger children when necessary. Different ages of children play well together. They enjoy having access to a variety of resources to support their play. Children are provided with healthy snacks. They can distinguish between healthy foods and treat foods, such as those provided on children's birthdays. Staff help children to learn about the wider world beyond their own community.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY454148
<b>Local authority</b>	North Yorkshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	1066380
<b>Type of provision</b>	Out of school provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	4 - 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	30
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	51
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Natalie Jayne Laverick
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP904461
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	27 February 2013
<b>Telephone number</b>	07774930210

Big Otters was registered in 2012. The club employs four members of childcare staff. All hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 8am until 9am and 3.30pm until 6pm.

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