

Little Academy

Tividale Community Primary School, Dudley Road West, Tividale, OLDBURY, West Midlands, B69 2HT



Inspection date	27 January 2017
Previous inspection date	17 January 2013

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children's safety is prioritised well. Staff supervise children well at all times as they move around the school building and grounds. Children demonstrate that they have a good understanding of the club's safety procedures. Staff carry out regular risk assessments to identify and remove potential hazards.
- Children arrive happily at the club and are eager to spend time with their friends. They are greeted warmly and enthusiastically by the friendly staff, with whom they develop strong attachments. Younger children are allocated a key person who helps them to settle quickly into the club.
- Staff work effectively together and with parents and teachers in the host school. They share information about each child to make sure that they understand their individual care needs and current interests. This helps staff to plan and provide consistency of care as children move between their home, school and the club.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently give children enough opportunities to contribute to deciding which activities will be offered at the club each day. Activities and resources provided are planned and set out by staff prior to children arriving at the club.
- The manager does not always use her observation of staff practice to identify how to raise the quality of staff's practice to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with more opportunities to be involved in planning the activities that take place in the club
- use information gained from observation of staff to help them to make further improvements in their practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor play areas.
- The inspector held meetings with the registered person. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, such as accident and attendance records. She discussed the club's self-evaluation with the registered person.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff's suitability, qualifications and training.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Karen Laycock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff and managers have a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk of abuse. They are clear about the procedures for reporting any safeguarding concerns about children to the relevant agencies. Recruitment procedures are robust and help to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Parents speak highly of the manager and her team. They comment that they find them very friendly and that they have confidence that their children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. The manager uses self-evaluation well. She is proactive in involving her staff, parents and children to help her to identify areas for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have regular discussions with the host school to find out about children's achievements. They use the information they gain to plan activities that complement and consolidate what the children are learning at school. Staff support children's learning in a relaxed manner. They involve children in conversation and ask effective questions to help develop their problem-solving skills. Staff help to promote children's small-muscle skills. They help children to practise their scissor skills as they make paper lanterns and introduce discussions about Chinese New Year. Children are keen to talk about what they have learnt at school, confidently explaining that it is the year of the rooster. Children are encouraged to follow their own ideas and value their individuality.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle into the club quickly and develop good friendships. Staff encourage children to be independent. For example, children take responsibility for organising the snack when they arrive at the club. This is a lovely social occasion and children take turns to talk to each other about their day, showing interest when others speak. This helps children who are new to the setting to feel a sense of belonging that helps build their confidence and self-esteem. Staff help children to learn how to keep themselves safe from harm. Children know they must inform a member of staff before leaving the room to visit the toilet. Children are polite and confident. They demonstrate they feel safe and secure in the setting as they confidently engage with visitors to the club. Children are keen to share details about their day with staff, who listen enthusiastically as children talk about what they have done. Children behave well. They are kind to each other and play cooperatively together. Children have many opportunities to play outdoors and be active. For instance, they thoroughly enjoy extending their physical skills as they join in group games.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY450004
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1066077
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 - 12
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Dee Willan
Registered person unique reference number	RP514128
Date of previous inspection	17 January 2013
Telephone number	07733 222 186

Little Academy was registered in 2012. The club employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one at level 6. The club opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.55am and 3.30pm until 5.40pm during school term time and 8am until 5.45pm during school holidays.

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