

First Friends After School Club



St Albans School, Newstead Avenue, Chaddesden, Derby, Derbyshire, DE21 6NU

Inspection date	12 April 2017
Previous inspection date	7 May 2015

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

- The manager supports staff well so that they are confident in their knowledge of safeguarding issues. They are able to describe different signs and indicators of abuse or neglect. They know what to do if there are any concerns about children. The manager continually trains staff and tests their knowledge to ensure that it is up to date.
- Staff are very positive and friendly role models. They develop a homely culture at the club that helps children to feel settled and comfortable. Children behave exceptionally well and help each other during activities.
- Staff provide a broad range of well-planned activities. They build on children's interests well through activities and resources to promote their enjoyment and engagement.
- Staff develop positive partnerships with parents and carers. They gather good information about children when they first start. They update parents and carers on what children have been doing on a daily basis. They seek parents' and carers' feedback on the quality of the provision to help them identify areas to improve.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully developed partnerships with schools children attend to ensure that they complement children's learning and any particular support needs.
- Professional development does not focus thoroughly enough on how to extend staff practice even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with other settings that children attend to provide better continuity in their care and to build on the learning that takes place at school
- focus more precisely on the professional development of staff to identify and address key areas to extend their practice even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and assessed the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke 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. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector discussed the procedures for self-evaluation and the priorities for improvement.

Inspector

Justine Ellaway

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager ensures staff follow good procedures to keep children safe. They regularly check the environment throughout the day to ensure that it continues to be safe. For example, staff encourage children to ensure the floor remains clear and safe at all times. The management team deploys staff really well. They ensure there is a high number of staff at each session to supervise children and provide additional support for new children where needed. This has a positive impact on children's safety and experiences. There are clear procedures to ensure the suitability of adults working with children. The management team evaluates the range of activities and resources well to plan future improvements. For example, they have purchased additional sports equipment to support children's interests. They are developing the outdoor area to provide children with more opportunities to learn about the natural world.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified staff team provides a good range of play opportunities for children. They ensure that they set out resources that reflect children's current interests. They plan activities where they have identified that children need additional support. Staff encourage children's independence well, so that children can access or ask for additional resources to extend their activities. Staff encourage children successfully to engage in activities. They show a keen interest in what children are doing. For example, children create their own artwork relating to the current topic of Easter. Staff encourage them to talk about what they have drawn and offer lots of praise for children's efforts. Staff give very good support to encourage children to speak in front of others, helping children to become confident communicators. Staff help children to learn new skills, for example, as they help to prepare meals or engage in cooking and baking activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children really enjoy their time at the club. They are keen to join in with activities and play with others. Staff are very calm, friendly and approachable. As a result, children are very friendly and kind towards each other. They are clear about staff expectations and follow the club rules. For example, they take it in turns during games and give each other time to have their go. Staff support children well who are new to the club during the routines and changes between activities. Staff provide children with good access the large hall and outdoor area for physical activities. Staff skilfully support children to learn about keeping healthy and safe. For example, during a discussion about eating cake, they talk about good dental hygiene and a healthy diet. Staff sensitively support children to recognise why they need to follow the rules and that certain actions may be unsafe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	259120
Local authority	Derby, City of
Inspection number	1090468
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	52
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	First Friends P.D.N. Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP521575
Date of previous inspection	7 May 2015
Telephone number	01332 677660

First Friends After School Club registered in 2001. The club employs nine members of childcare staff. All staff hold early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.55am and 3.30pm until 6pm during term time and from 7.30am until 6pm during school holidays.

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