

Paintbox After School

Carlton House, The Mount, Heswall, Wirral, CH60 4RG



Inspection date	19 April 2017
Previous inspection date	28 April 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

- Children are extremely happy and settled in this warm and friendly club. Children say the staff are lovely, kind and caring. They say they enjoy the different activities available, playing with their friends, and that their favourite snack is noodles.
- The management team is experienced and qualified and has a thorough understanding of the requirements it must meet. They meet with staff regularly to discuss future plans and ideas for improvement. For example, they have changed their practice to enhance children's creativity further.
- Children of all ages play well together. Older children show kindness and patience towards younger children, encouraging them to lead imaginative games.
- Children's safety is a high priority. Staff supervise children well on the walk to and from school, reminding them to stay back from the road. They ensure children are easily identified when they spend time playing in the park.
- Parents comment very favourably about the caring nature of the staff, how much their children enjoy attending the club and the flexibility of the service.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not have enough opportunities to learn about people whose culture or beliefs are different from their own.
- Although managers monitor staff performance, they do not give staff enough guidance to consistently support them to develop their practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- plan activities which will help children to gain an understanding of people and communities beyond their immediate experience
- provide staff with more guidance so that they are clear about what they need to do to continually improve their practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between children and staff during activities indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector accompanied staff and children on the walk between school and the club premises.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held several discussions with the club's managers, including the plans they have to drive improvements. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of people working on the premises.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views provided in written feedback.

Inspector

Val Aspinall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of the signs that may indicate a child is suffering harm and know how to refer any concerns, should they arise. Policies and procedures are fully understood and implemented effectively to ensure children's safety. For example, children are unable to access the internet when using a range of computers and gaming devices. Staff assess risks to children and, when appropriate, encourage them to take on additional responsibilities. Staff update their skills and knowledge through training in order to maintain children's well-being. Partnerships with schools and the club's pre-school setting are strong. Teachers and staff share information daily, ensuring parents are well informed of any issues that arise during the school day.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children continue to develop the skills required to support their learning at school. They enjoy collaborating on a large-scale drawing outdoors, carefully writing their names next to their contribution. They play board games with staff or consider how to build a den with their friends. Staff plan a wide range of creative activities and encourage children to design their own projects. Children construct things from clay, make their own slime and create cupcake collages. They are adept at using scissors, glue sticks and sticky tape. Staff are on hand to offer support where needed but encourage children to do things for themselves. Children show concentration and focus as they develop their creative ideas. They demonstrate a real sense of pride in their achievements as they proudly show off their work and the creations they have made.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children clearly show that they are attached to the staff and they use words like, 'Awesome' to describe their relationship with them. Children say that the manager is, 'Fantastic' and always helps them if they have a problem. Staff listen to children and show a sensitivity to their circumstances, effectively supporting their emotional well-being. Children choose whether to play inside or outside and many enjoy playing football with their friends. Snack time is ongoing. Children decide what filling they want on their sandwich, which fruit they prefer and help themselves to drinks. The menu is healthy and well balanced with occasional treats, such as waffles and ice cream. Children show confidence and independence as they play. They are well behaved and helpful at tidy-up time. Parents say it is difficult to get children to come home because they enjoy the club so much.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY236119
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	1091485
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	0 - 17
Total number of places	49
Number of children on roll	92
Name of registered person	Paintbox Activities Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP527492
Date of previous inspection	28 April 2015
Telephone number	07881531657

Paintbox After School registered in 2003. The after-school club employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 or above and two hold relevant qualifications at level 2. The after-school club is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 9am and from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time, and from 8am to 6pm during school holidays.

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