

Alphabet After School Club

Kelvedon St. Marys Primary Academy, St. Mary`s Road, Kelvedon, Essex, CO5 9DS



Inspection date

26 May 2017

Previous inspection date

23 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 enjoy a choice and variety of nutritious, healthy meals and snacks while sitting in social groups with their friends. They have access to different types of physical play every day, keeping them fit and healthy.
- Staff provide children with plenty of choice. For example, those children who want to sit quietly and relax have the space to do so, while others who want to be more physically active can run around outdoors.
- Children are extremely happy, settled and confident. They have good relationships with staff and each other, which significantly benefits their emotional well-being and sense of belonging. Children arrive from different schools keen to find their friends and play.
- The manager has a good knowledge of recruitment and the steps to take in order to check that staff are suitable. He encourages staff to attend regular training courses, for example, to extend and develop their skills and knowledge. The staff team works closely together, which helps to provide children with an enjoyable experience.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always actively seek comprehensive feedback from parents and children to ensure that their views form part of the club's self-evaluation.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen strategies to take account of parents' and children's views on all aspects of the provision, in order to contribute to plans for future improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and checked evidence of the staff's qualifications and suitability.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team about how it is moving the club forward.
- The inspector observed staff and children interacting together during activities.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents to consider their views on the service they receive.

Inspector
Claire Meyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The staff team has high expectations of all children. Actions taken to improve the quality of the setting are effectively planned, concerted and put in place, overall. There is a full programme of professional development and performance management in place. This helps to ensure that the staff update their knowledge, understanding and practice, which is improving steadily. The staff ensure there is a wide variety of activities to provide a broad range of interesting and demanding experiences. Relationships between the staff provide a good model from which children learn about how to behave towards others. All staff have high expectations for consistently good behaviour and they actively promote equality and diversity through all they do. Safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures, including safer recruitment procedures, are implemented well. Safeguarding is effective and all staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and what to do should a concern be raised. All staff understand how to manage and minimise risks for children without limiting opportunities for their development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff gather information from parents about children's abilities and interests when they join the club. Once at the club, children organise themselves and independently choose from the vast selection of resources available to them, for instance, some choose to get creative and engage in painting sunflowers and butterflies. Others who prefer to be outside take bats, balls, skipping ropes and cones and they play group games. Some children busily pretend to be mummies and daddies while deeply involved in using their imaginations during role play with friends. Another group of children chat about their day while writing and drawing at the table. Children have fun as the staff use skilful questioning and listen perceptively to their wants and needs. They use this information to plan suitably challenging activities and to effectively reshape experiences as necessary. Parents are kept informed about their children's time at the club through daily communication.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are self-motivated and keen learners. They listen carefully to adults and each other. Children are supported well with an effective key-person system which helps them form good relationships with the staff. This supports their well-being and independence. Staff consistently promote good behaviour and regular attendance. They provide clear guidance for children about what is and is not acceptable behaviour. They also help children to become independent in managing their own personal needs. Children's confidence to talk and share experiences with adults shows that they feel comfortable and self-assured. The staff are successfully giving the children clear messages about why it is important to have a healthy diet and to be physically active. For example, children are encouraged to make the most of the opportunities to be physically active outside. Children are learning to respect and celebrate each other's differences. They develop an understanding of diversity beyond their immediate family experience through a range of activities that helps teach them effectively about people in the wider world.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203407
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1089885
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 - 13
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	86
Name of registered person	The Alphabet After School Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP909899
Date of previous inspection	23 April 2015
Telephone number	07751 382315

Alphabet After School Club registered in 2000. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualifications at level 2, and three hold level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 7.45am until 9am for the breakfast club, 3pm until 6pm for the after-school club, and 8am until 6pm for the holiday scheme.

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