

Inspection date

6 June 2017

Previous inspection date

26 March 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 of all ages enjoy their time in the club and are often reluctant to leave. They make good use of the interesting play opportunities on offer.
- Staff take time to play with children. They use their good knowledge of how children learn to support children's growing communication skills. They model thinking and demonstrate how to do things, helping to extend children's learning through their play.
- Relationships are strong. Parents and children quickly establish high levels of trust in the caring and enthusiastic staff team.
- Children behave well and staff support children to develop and value the attitudes they need to be good learners in school.
- Staff, led by the very experienced manager, regularly and effectively evaluate the quality of the provision. They demonstrate a strong commitment to sustaining good quality care for the children who attend.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always make the most of opportunities to gather children's views and actively involve them in planning activities.
- There is scope to improve the provision for outdoor play, so children who want to play energetically and exercise in the fresh air after their day at school have increased opportunities to do so.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide greater opportunities for children to share their views and to contribute to the planning of activities
- enhance the provision for outdoor play so children who want to play energetically and exercise in the fresh air have further opportunities to do so.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and assessed the impact on children's enjoyment and development.
- The inspector met with the manager and also spoke to the staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and discussed the provider's self-evaluation and plans for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of adults working in the club.

Inspector

Vickie Halliwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are aware of the indicators of abuse and know the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child in their care. Secure recruitment and vetting procedures are followed and all staff have been thoroughly checked by the provider to ensure they are suitable to work with children. The very experienced and well-qualified manager continuously monitors and reviews staff's practice. She skilfully guides, supports and encourages staff to develop their knowledge and practice, as she works alongside them. They access regular training. This helps to further develop their knowledge and skills. Risk assessments are regularly reviewed and all potential hazards are minimised to ensure children can play safely. Well-organised collection procedures help to keep children safe as they are escorted to and from their schools. Staff make every effort to work in partnership with school staff.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy a wide range of interesting and challenging experiences that effectively complement their time in school. Staff make excellent use of routine procedures to encourage children to practise and refine their early writing skills. For example, children confidently write their own names to register their attendance on arrival. Children happily explore the familiar surroundings and make meaningful choices about what they play with. They become absorbed in activities of their choice. For example, children repeatedly use large spoons to scoop lentils and pour them into a variety of containers. Children are well supported by staff as they play and have fun together. Staff encourage them to think and make comparisons, for instance, as they talk about how many scoops they need to fill their container. Staff know children well and simultaneously support children of all ages as they play large-group games together. Children have some good opportunities to learn about the wider community.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Good relationships with their key person and the wider staff team help children to form secure attachments. This provides a strong foundation for their emotional well-being. Children move easily and happily between their schools and the setting. Staff initiate conversations with children as they sit alongside them while they play. They listen to children with interest and ask open questions that encourage lively discussions. Staff are sensitive to children's individual care needs and work closely with parents to ensure these are well met. Children are confident. They are encouraged to make healthy choices about what they eat. They are familiar with established routines and display high levels of independence, for instance, during snack time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY331080
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	1092649
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 - 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	Julie Marie Wilkinson
Registered person unique reference number	RP514814
Date of previous inspection	26 March 2015
Telephone number	07731848162

Crackerjax registered in 2006. The out-of-school club operates from within the premises of Aspall Church School. The setting employs seven members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2, 3, 4 or 5. The before- and after-school club opens from Monday to Friday during term time and sessions are from 7.50am until 8.50am and from 3.30pm to 6pm. Holiday club sessions are Monday to Friday from 7.50am to 6pm.

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