

Pooh Corner ASC at St Marys



Northchurch St Marys C Of E First School, New Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3QZ

Inspection date

13 September 2017

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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

- Staff create a welcoming, relaxed and friendly environment which contributes to children immediately settling on arrival. They are clearly familiar with routines and are confident as they quickly engage into activities in the club.
- Staff exchange important information with parents to meet children's individual needs when they are settling in. This strong communication continues throughout each child's time at the club.
- Children are sociable and enjoy linking up with one another during activities, sharing ideas and playing collaboratively. Staff are good role models, setting clear expectations. This reflects in children's positive and respectful behaviour.
- Staff build solid relationships with the host school to promote continuity in children's care, contribute to children's learning and complement the experiences children receive.
- The manager demonstrates a strong commitment to continuous improvement, reflected in effective self-evaluation. During this process there is consultation with the host school, staff, parents and children.
- Children play in a safe environment and staff supervise them closely as they move between the indoor and outdoor areas.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always provide children with enough opportunities to select or use a wide range of technology in the club.
- On occasion, staff do not always emphasise the benefits of eating healthily and the effect it has on children's bodies, to widen their learning of healthy lifestyles.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to select or use a wide range of technology
- provide even more activities and experiences that help raise children's awareness of the benefits of a healthy diet.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children engaging in activities in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club. The inspector discussed the arrangements for self-evaluation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the deputy manager.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The manager and staff have a good understanding of child protection issues. They receive updates and further training which helps them to keep abreast of changes to safeguarding legislation. Staff have clear procedures for parents collecting children and staff are in constant communication to help children stay safe. Children are encouraged to think about risk and they show a good understanding of safety rules. For example, they are encouraged to be aware of others in the room when exercising and dancing on safety mats. Staff have good opportunities to keep their skills and practice up to date. Parents and children are actively involved in sharing their views, for instance, through questionnaires.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Well-qualified and experienced staff respond to children's choices of activities, moving around to deploy themselves effectively in order to support them. They encourage children to think for themselves and to use their imagination. Children enjoy each other's company and play well together. For example, children cooperate, making up their own games and then taking it in turns to have a go. Children welcome the interactions with staff and respond positively to instructions. Children enjoy making different shapes and objects with the dough and building towers with large construction blocks. They have fun balancing and exercising on safety mats as they practise cartwheels and star jumps and are proud of their achievements. Staff share appropriate information with parents about the time their children have spent at the club. Parents comment that their children have good relationships with the staff and like spending their time in the club. Staff speak with teaching staff and promote a consistent approach to support children's overall well-being.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff use information from parents effectively to get to know children well and help them settle, providing activities that interest them. Children clearly enjoy their time at the club and are very well behaved, considerate and helpful. Staff value their achievements, for instance, with praise and encouragement. Children readily respond to staff requests, such as tidying up after play and putting their plates away after snack time. Staff plan meaningful activities to help children develop an appreciation of difference. For example, children discuss how they will help families from around the world who have suffered from recent natural disasters, by collecting items to send to them. Children develop good levels of independence. They serve their own snack, choosing from a very wide, healthy selection and clear away their own plates afterwards. Children benefit from ample fresh air and exercise through several indoor and outdoor activities, contributing to their overall physical well-being effectively.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY486466
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1011237
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 - 4
Total number of places	8
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	Pooh Corner At St Mary's Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902703
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07771623159

Pooh Corner ASC at St Marys registered in 2015. The club employs four members of childcare staff who all hold appropriate early years qualifications. The club opens from Monday to Friday, from 3.20pm until 6pm, term time only.

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