

Bowerham Kids Club

Bowerham School, Bowerham Road, Lancaster, LA1 4BS



Inspection date

3 October 2017

Previous inspection date

15 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 is passionate about making sure there is a continuous drive to maintain high levels of care and enjoyment for all children. The managers and staff show a very strong commitment to their role. They are well qualified and have high expectations of the club and children who attend.
- Children's welfare and happiness are central to everything the manager and staff do. They use a wide range of methods to seek the views of children and involve them in planning activities. For example, when children show an interest in volcanos, staff make sure a child request sheet informs any future planning.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. They are kept well informed about all aspects of the running of the club. Staff exchange important information with parents to meet children's individual needs. Parents are very complimentary about the service provided.
- Children develop strong social skills and make new friends quickly. Older children support new, younger children when they first start at the club. This helps foster children's emotional well-being effectively.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, staff do not fully encourage the youngest children to develop their independence and take responsibility for small tasks.
- The manager has developed procedures to help staff reflect on and develop their practice. However, staff do not access a wider range of professional development opportunities to enhance staff's knowledge and skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- find ways to further promote younger children's independence and extend their ability to take on responsibilities
- make greater use of opportunities to help staff to extend and develop their already good practice further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises. She spoke with staff and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed children engaging in activities in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and met the headteacher of the host school. 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 carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and evaluated written feedback that was provided.

Inspector

Janice Caryl

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 are fully aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse. The organisation and planning to ensure children are safely collected from school is meticulous. Recruitment and vetting procedures are secure. The effective induction process supports staff in understanding their roles and responsibilities. Staff comment on how well supported they are. Daily five-minute briefings, weekly staff meetings and a robust supervisory and staff appraisal process contribute to effective performance management. There is an extremely strong partnership with the host school. Staff work closely with the Reception teacher to share planning and ideas. This helps with continuity and transitions to school.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff create a welcoming, relaxed and friendly environment which contributes to children immediately settling in on arrival. Staff use their observations to plan for children's individual interests. They are skilled in their interactions and use effective methods to maintain children's interests. For example, following a woodland walk to gather autumn leaves, seeds and nuts, children use their imagination and creative skills to produce paintings and prints. They enthusiastically explore different textures and colours of paint and animatedly talk about their pictures. Staff engage in good dialogue with children about what animals do in preparation for winter. Children show their learning, for example, when they talk about hibernation. Staff are very enthusiastic and motivational. They entice all children to join in with fun, exciting games. Older children, who are initially reluctant, soon join in when they see how much fun it is. Children play well together across the different age groups and older children are positive role models.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Key persons effectively support children's emotional well-being and keep children informed of what is happening at the club. For example, children ask visitors whether they are the special guest that is due to arrive. Children form friendly respectful relationships and attachments with staff. They are clearly familiar with routines and are confident as they quickly engage in activities. Children's behaviour is exceptional. They are encouraged to listen carefully and are given clear instructions to help them to keep safe. Children are polite, respectful and know the difference between right and wrong. Staff work with children to ensure that they know the rules and boundaries which are consistent with the school rules. Children enjoy plenty of fresh air and physical exercise in the large, well-resourced outdoor area. Breakfast and snacks provided by the club are healthy and nutritious.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY420604
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1094621
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 - 10
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	Bowerham Kids Club
Registered person unique reference number	RP530310
Date of previous inspection	15 May 2015
Telephone number	01524 63999

Bowerham Kids Club registered in 2011. The club employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold relevant qualifications at level 2 and 3, including the manager who holds early years professional status. The breakfast and after-school club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am until 9am and from 3.15 until 5.55pm. Holiday provision is provided from 7.30am until 5.45pm.

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