

St Mary's Ashford Play Club



St. Marys C of E Primary School, Western Avenue, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1ND

Inspection date	20 November 2017
Previous inspection date	9 January 2014

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 excited to attend the after-school club. Staff provide an interesting and welcoming environment where children are able to make informed choices in their play, to help develop their confidence and independence.
- Children form positive relationships with the staff and feel safe and secure. Staff support children's emotional well-being effectively. Children develop good social skills.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff are positive role models who provide clear and consistent boundaries to teach children right from wrong. They praise children, give encouragement and celebrate their achievements.
- The management has strong procedures for the recruitment, induction and the continual vetting, training and supervision of staff. Management deploys staff effectively. Staff ensure that they promote children's safety well at all times.
- Staff have good partnerships with parents, to help provide continuity of care and learning. For example, they share information with parents regularly, to help them offer a range of experiences that reflect children's interests and aid their future learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently share information with other early years professionals, to help provide a comprehensive awareness of each child's learning needs.
- Staff do not make effective use of all opportunities to help children learn about the importance of having a healthy lifestyle.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further ways of working with other early years professionals, to help provide consistency in children's learning
- increase children's growing knowledge and awareness of how to make healthy choices.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the management about how it is developing the club.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation and checked evidence of the staff qualifications and their suitability to work with children.
- The inspector observed staff and children interacting together during activities, and spoke to them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents to take into account their views on the service they receive.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The management and staff demonstrate a secure understanding of their responsibilities to keep children safe. For example, all staff attend regular safeguarding training and understand the process to follow should they have concerns about a child in their care. Staff carry out thorough risk assessments to protect children from harm. The management has efficient systems for self-evaluation. For instance, it gains views from parents and children and discusses changes they would like to make to the club, to help maintain good standards. The management has fully addressed all previous recommendations. For example, it has introduced a photograph book to show parents the activities that children engage in, to help develop stronger links with parents.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff encourage children to help plan what they would like to do. For instance, children are eager to look through the resources book to see which toys they would like to play with. Staff offer children a variety of craft activities. For example, children imaginatively incorporate handprints into their artwork. Staff know the children well and use this knowledge effectively. For example, they engage children in conversations about which character they would like to dress up as in the role-play area. Staff ask children appropriate questions, and they listen and wait for them to answer. For instance, they ask them to name the different shapes and letters they make when using the coloured pegs. This helps give younger children confidence to join in with conversations. Staff support children well as they play. For example, they have fun playing board games and ball games together. This encourages children's awareness of turn taking and fair play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Familiar daily routines help children to feel confident and contribute to their safety and security. Children particularly enjoy putting on their coat and high-visibility jacket to go outside in the playground and join in parachute games. Staff provide children with a wide range of activities to support their social development. Children actively engage in sports activities and learn about the importance of exercise. They thoroughly enjoy daily opportunities to play outside, whatever the weather or time of day. For example, they are particularly adept at squeezing the torches to get them to shine brightly as they explore outside in the dark with the staff. Younger children receive additional support from older children who are their school buddies, to help make sure they are happy and settled at the after-school club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY458162
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1069197
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	St Mary's Ashford Play Club
Registered person unique reference number	RP532299
Date of previous inspection	9 January 2014
Telephone number	07708 463450

St Mary's Ashford Play Club originally registered in 2002 and re-registered in 2013. It is a voluntary management group which is supported by Kent Play Clubs, which manages the club. It operates from within St Mary's Primary School in Ashford, Kent. The club is open each weekday from 3pm to 5.45pm, during term time only. There are six members of staff. Of these, one is a qualified teacher, two hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2.

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