

Sunflowers Day Care

St. Michaels & St. Johns RC School, Lowergate, CLITHEROE, Lancashire, BB7 1AG



Inspection date 15 January 2018
Previous inspection date 11 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

- The provider and her staff have worked hard to address the recommendations from the last inspection. Children enjoy a variety of opportunities to explore their natural surroundings. For example, activities outdoors now include an area where children can grow their own plants and vegetables.
- Children are very confident and their independence skills are well developed. They initiate their own play, share resources and play cooperatively with their peers.
- The provider has resourced the club very well. Equipment, activities and resources are rich and varied, which helps to enthuse and engage children in learning.
- Parents speak very highly of the club. The provider and her staff have built strong relationships with parents. The parents remark on the deep trust they have in staff and how much they like the friendly and flexible service offered. This helps to support a consistent approach to children's well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for professional development do not fully focus on developing staff's practice to the highest level.
- Although the provider has a strong desire to continually improve the club, processes of self-evaluation are not yet fully embedded to target areas that will make the greatest improvement and do not consistently include the views of staff, parents and children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop further the programme for professional development to help drive overall practice to the highest level
- strengthen the processes for self-evaluation to help identify priorities that will raise the quality of the club even further, and find ways to include the views of children, staff and parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector undertook a tour of the areas used for the club.
- The inspector sampled a range of records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff who work at the club.
- The inspector discussed the club's plans to improve with the manager and staff.
- The inspector took account of the views of children, parents and staff spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Michaela Francioli

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff's knowledge of the procedures they would follow if they had concerns about a child or an issue with a member of staff's practice is secure. They have a good understanding of how to recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to record and report concerns accordingly. The staff hold paediatric first-aid qualifications, and this helps to ensure that they are well equipped to deal with any accidents that may occur. The provider keeps very good records, such as emergency contact details for all children and parents' signed consent to administer first aid. Staff feel well supported in their roles. They are good role models and they have high expectations of what children can do for themselves. This helps to boost self-esteem and confidence.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and this enables them to provide access to resources and activities that they know children are interested in. Children enjoy the planned activity and work well with each other and a member of staff. Younger children welcome assistance from staff to help them persevere and master cutting slits to make their Chinese lanterns. This helps to develop children's small-muscle skills. Children are animated discussing the sparkly sequins they choose to decorate their lantern. Staff join in with children's play and interact appropriately, making learning fun. For example, staff happily play along with the children in the role-play doctor's surgery, having injections or being bandaged. Younger children are supported to extend their vocabulary and staff introduce new words, such as 'burrowing', to describe the action of a worm in the soil.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Younger children interact with older children and learn the skills of working together as a team. For example, older children encourage younger ones to pass the tray of crackers around the table at snack time. Children have regular access to the outdoors, which provides them with opportunities to develop their physical skills and be active. They enjoy playing games with their friends, such as football or hoops. Staff encourage positive social values, encouraging children to be respectful and helpful. Older children assist younger ones constantly. For example, helping to remove their coats or reminding them to wash their hands after a planting activity. Children's behaviour is good. Staff give them time to resolve minor conflicts for themselves. This helps them solve issues and self-regulate feelings. Children learn about the world they live in and create displays about other cultures and celebrations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY395045
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1093928
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	Alison Gudgeon
Registered person unique reference number	RP511353
Date of previous inspection	11 March 2015
Telephone number	01200422560

Sunflowers Day Care registered in 2004. The club employs three members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The club opens from Monday to Thursday during term time and sessions are from 7.30am until 8.55am and 3pm until 6pm. The club also opens on Fridays during term time from 7.30am to 8.55am.

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