

Barlow Park - Play Is For All



Barlow Park Young Peoples Centre, The Pavilion, Bolton, BL1 7NT

Inspection date	23 May 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 highly qualified staff ensure that all children who attend who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities are cared for with accurate information they record on children's individual care plans.
- Staff are very caring and form very positive relationships with children. They provide them with a wide range of interesting activities that are planned around children's individual needs and interests.
- Staff are very skilful at recognising when children need extra support at the club and they will re-shape activities to make them less stressful.
- Parents speak very positively about the after-school club facilities. They comment that staff are fantastic and care for children very well. Staff fully support the whole family. Parents feel valued and their children's needs are respected.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management team has worked hard to build effective links with schools for children who have SEN and/or disabilities schools and communication with them is excellent. However, the communication with mainstream schools needs to be more effective to support the care and interests of all children that attend.
- The management team offer staff the opportunity to have thorough one to one meetings to reflect on their practice. However, staff are not given the opportunity to reflect more on each other's practice to enhance their knowledge and raise standards to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- find more ways to communicate with the mainstream schools that children attend to support their care and interests
- strengthen staff reflection on practice to enhance opportunities for children and raise standards to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors, and the interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector talked to children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the senior play worker.
- The inspector held a meeting with the senior play worker and manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lindsey Wallwork-Jones

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff undertake child protection training to keep their knowledge up to date. They have a good understanding of the indicators of abuse and neglect and how to report their concerns. This ensures children are kept safe from harm. Leaders fully understand their role and responsibilities and follow robust recruitment procedures to recruit suitable, highly qualified and experienced staff members. Overall, staff receive the relevant coaching, guidance and support during supervisory sessions and appraisal meetings. They attend a variety of training programmes, which positively impact on outcomes for children. For example, all staff are trained in administration of certain medications and how to evacuate children if there is an emergency. This has reduced the stress levels for children and improved the smooth running of the club.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know their key groups of children extremely well. For example, a child arrived distressed and the key person immediately calmed the child down by playing in the shaving foam, using sensory interest to soothe them. Staff engage well in children's play, listen to their suggestions and plan activities that they know children will enjoy. Staff promote communication and language skills effectively. They use a range of resources, such as sign language, gestures and pictures to reinforce their understanding. Staff work in partnership with a variety of external agencies who support children that attend. They complete accurate assessments, observations and evaluations of children's progress that contribute to each child's individual health and care plan.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff have a good understanding of what children like and can do. They encourage parents and other agencies to share information when children first register at the club. This helps with the settling-in process and ensures all children's medical and care needs are being taken into account. The key-person system is secure and well embedded. Staff model good behaviour, which helps children understand how to play cooperatively, share and take turns. Children enjoy healthy snacks and learn about healthy eating. For example, children learn how fruit juice can be bad for their teeth and enjoy drinking milk and water instead. Snack time is a social event and children enjoy choosing their healthy foods, setting the table and clearing away afterwards. Children delight as they are given behaviour rewards for their efforts. Additionally, they demonstrate a sense of pride and responsibility as they independently choose what reward they would like for instance, playing on the computer tablet or going outside to play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY492012
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	1033054
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	5 - 12
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	1
Name of registered person	Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council
Registered person unique reference number	RP901382
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01204 334033

Barlow Park - Play Is For All registered in 2015 and is one of a number of settings operated by Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council. It provides out-of-school play activities for children who have SEN and/or disabilities. The club employs seven regular members of childcare staff. The manager holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens weekdays after school. Sessions are from 3.30pm until 6pm and during some school holidays.

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