

Building Blocks After School Club

Vicars Cross Community Centre, Chester CH3 5LP



Inspection date

3 October 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 leadership and management	Good	2
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Quality of teaching, learning and assessment	Good	2
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Personal development, behaviour and welfare	Good	2
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Outcomes for children	Not Applicable	
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Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Staff support children's development effectively through enjoyable activities. They engage children in lots of conversations about what they are doing, and encourage them to share their opinions.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Staff share information with parents about their child's time at the club. Parents spoken to on the day of inspection say that they are particularly happy with the arrangements for collecting children from school, and praise staff's vigilance in ensuring children's safety.
- Children's behaviour is good. Staff are positive role models who speak respectfully to children and model the use of good manners. Children are polite, sociable and learn to share and take turns.
- Children eagerly arrive at the warm and welcoming club. They are happy and keen to share stories about what they have done at school throughout the day. An effective key-person system supports the youngest children well. Children are happy, relaxed and show that they feel safe and secure.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The manager reflects on the quality of the club. However, she does not consistently seek the views and opinions of children and parents to help develop the quality of the club even further.
- Professional development is not sharply focused on raising the quality of staff's practice to the highest possible level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- seek the views of children and parents to strengthen self-evaluation and develop the quality of provision even further
- strengthen the evaluation of staff practice to identify further training opportunities and help to raise the quality of the provision to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors, and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the club manager and owner. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Rachel Deputy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff understand their roles and responsibilities in helping to keep children safe. Staff have a secure understanding of the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Effective procedures are in place for the recruitment and induction of staff, to ensure they are suitable to work with children. The manager carries out ongoing suitability checks for staff and generally supports them well during supervision and appraisal meetings. Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. Staff are deployed effectively to supervise and care for children indoors and outdoors. Risk assessments are successfully implemented and staff make children aware of any risks and dangers around them. For example, they remind children to sit on chairs correctly.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff use their knowledge of children's learning at school to complement and build on their prior knowledge. For example, they reflect the school's autumn topic in activities at the club. Planned activities encourage children to be creative, and support their speech and language development. They construct imaginatively with seasonal materials they have brought from home. For example, children glue conkers together to make different animal shapes and decorate them with glitter and paint. Staff skilfully question children to support their critical-thinking and language skills, encouraging them to talk about their thought processes and ideas. Children are warmly supported to collaborate and consider each other's views. For example, older children are encouraged to teach younger children the rules of their games so that they can join in. They enjoy the responsibility of guiding their younger peers, who feel valued and included.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff obtain a wealth of information from parents when children start at the club to help them settle well. Staff use daily routines effectively to help children learn how to stay safe. For example, children chat happily to staff as they walk to the club from school. Staff remind them that it will soon be almost dark outside and ask them questions to prompt their thinking about safety. Children demonstrate a good understanding of how to stay safe as they talk about wearing reflective clothing and crossing the road at safe points. All children demonstrate a positive attitude to playing outside and being active. They fully understand and learn from the club's efficient hygiene procedures. Even very young children understand why they must wash and dry their hands with care. Children delight in sharing their memories of the wonderful range of visitors at the club. For example, they recall a visit from local zoo keepers and talk about the exciting items they brought, such as samples of different animals' fur. This helps to support children's understanding of the natural world.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY536996
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10077051
Type of provision	Out-of-school day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	4 - 10
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Stephens, Sally Ann
Registered person unique reference number	RP536995
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07748752142

Building Blocks After School Club registered in 2016. It operates Monday to Friday from 3.15pm until 5.30pm, during term time. There are three staff members, including the manager who holds an appropriate qualification at level 6.

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