

The Ark After School Club



St Bede C of E Primary School, Gordon Road, Winchester, Hampshire
SO23 7DD

Inspection date	12 November 2018
Previous inspection date	8 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Children are confident and happy in the club. They settle well in the routines, enjoy outside play and like the creative activities that have been put out by the staff, which complement their ongoing learning.
- Children play in a clean, welcoming environment, where all areas have been fully risk assessed to maintain children's safety. Children show that they feel safe as they play and explore in all areas available within the club with confidence.
- Behaviour is good. Children are well-mannered, kind and considerate to each other and helpful. Staff support the children's self-esteem well with a good amount of praise and encouragement.
- Staff have effective partnerships with parents and keep them well informed about their children's time at the club. For example, staff talk to parents daily and provide regular newsletters.
- The management team follows effective systems for safer recruitment, which ensures staff working with children are safe and suitable.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The management team does not sharply focus enough time on all staff's professional development to help raise the quality of the provision to the highest level.
- Children are unable to access additional toys and resources freely as required during their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the evaluation of staff's practice more sharply to identify further training opportunities and help raise the quality of provision to an even higher level
- review the accessibility of equipment for all activities to allow children to make individual decisions and independent choices.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities available to children.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents available about their views and opinions of the provision and considered these.
- The inspector asked staff questions about their work and observed practice with the manager.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, and records relating to the recruitment and supervision of staff.

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk. The management team provides staff with detailed safeguarding procedures and referral information on their identification badges, which helps them to know whom to contact in the event of a concern. The management team provides staff with suitable training to ensure that they are aware of their roles and responsibilities for the club. For example, staff have had food hygiene training, which has helped them to ensure that children's health is maintained through effective hygiene practices. Staff have good partnerships with teachers and other professionals within schools. For instance, staff regularly seek and share achievements and messages about children, to support continuity in children's care. The management team has suitable self-evaluation processes in place, which it uses to review the club activities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff provide a welcoming environment for the children, which allows the children to be active or rest as needed, after a day at school. Staff set up the room prior to children's arrival, to ensure children have access to a range of activities which provides interest. For example, children enjoy playing card games, colouring in pictures linked to 'Anti-Bullying Week' and exploring with dough. Staff are skilled at engaging with the children and support their listening and speaking skills well. For instance, they ask children questions about their play and include them well in conversations. Staff track and observe early years children's progress well. For example, they observe, track and check the children's learning and development to ensure they all make ongoing progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff offer good support to the children and promote their independence and social skills well. For example, children chat socially to their friends at snack times and staff help them to make cheese toasties as required. Children benefit highly from freshly prepared and well-balanced and nutritious food. Staff support children's ideas well. For example, the 'Ark council' asked for the snack to be changed into a self-service area, which is being trialled successfully. Children understand the importance of following good hygiene routines. For example, they wash their hands before eating. Staff support the children's physical skills well. For instance, children enjoy learning to sew and being physically active outside as they play table tennis, swing ball and running games.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY281515
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10063201
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 - 11
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	164
Name of registered person	The Ark After School Club
Registered person unique reference number	RP524019
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2015
Telephone number	07749625017

The Ark After School Club registered in 2004. It operates from St Bede's Church of England Primary School in Winchester. The club operates before school on Mondays to Fridays from 7.30am until 8.50am. After-school sessions are on Mondays to Thursdays from 3.20pm until 6pm and until 5pm on Fridays, during school terms. There are 27 members of staff, of whom, 14 hold relevant qualifications.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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