

Excalibur Whizz Kids

Excalibur Primary School, Ivy Lane, Alsager, STOKE-ON-TRENT ST7 2RQ



Inspection date	23 November 2018
Previous inspection date	1 April 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			

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Parents comment the club is 'welcoming' and 'staff are caring'. The manager regularly evaluates the views of parents and children through questionnaires. She makes regular improvements to the club based on the suggestions she receives, such as providing a wider variety of food for snack.
- Children who have recently started at the club settle in quickly. Staff gather detailed information about children's skills, preferences and interests from parents when children join. They use this information to help plan play experiences that engage children in activities from the outset.
- Staff have developed good ways of informing parents of children's achievements and skills in the club. For instance, as well as giving parents verbal feedback at the end of the session they also use an electronic photo frame for parents to view their children's play.
- Staff make excellent use of the information they gather from staff at the host school. They use this to provide resources and play opportunities that enables children to precisely build on their skills from school in the club.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff teach children about rules to promote their good behaviour. However, some staff are less skilled in helping children to learn about the consequences of their behaviour.
- Occasionally, staff limit children's choices during activities, reducing the opportunities for them to fully develop their own ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen staff's skills, to further promote children's positive behaviour and develop their awareness of boundaries and the consequences of their actions
- maximise opportunities in activities for children to make choices, have their own ideas and lead their own play.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Scott Thomas-White

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a sound knowledge of child protection procedures and wider safeguarding issues, such as extreme views and behaviours. The provider robustly checks staff to help ensure they are suitable. New staff receive a detailed induction to help train them on their roles and responsibilities. The management team who operates the club and the staff working at the club meet weekly to share new ideas and implement these into practice. For example, they have recently developed new ways to further promote children's independence at snack time. This helps children to develop very good self-serving skills. Supervision is effective. The manager and provider give staff the opportunity to discuss with them any concerns they might have about children. The manager also gives staff feedback to help improve their personal effectiveness.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The play experiences staff provide children are good. Children engage well in activities because they are interesting, build on their prior learning from school and fully promote their imaginations. For example, staff provide activities linked to children's topic at school of 'people who help us'. Children thoroughly enjoy dressing up as firefighters and using lengths of garden hose to pretend to put out fires. Staff allow children to make substitute fires using a range of craft materials. Children also have the opportunity to make a firefighters hat to wear. Staff interact well with the children to help them recall their experiences from school. This encourages children to describe what they know about fire engines from a recent visit in school by the local fire department. Children express that they fight like a firefighter when they sat in the fire engine. Staff plan very well for children's interests. They hold a fortnightly children's meeting where children write down activities they would and toys they want to play with. Staff then plan for these requests, such as baking activities for children to make flapjack.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

There are good systems in place to share information about children's care needs with parents and teachers at the host school. For instance, if children bump their head, they wear a wrist band which indicates to others what has happened and the care they may require throughout the day. Staff promote children's healthy lifestyles well. They provide opportunities for children to play outside daily. This helps children to develop skills, such as their social skills while playing team games. Children understand the importance of good hygiene routines and wash their hands before eating food.

Outcomes for children are

Setting details

Unique reference number	305434
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10070136
Type of provision	Full 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	24
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Kirsten Forster & Susan Stanway Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP905899
Date of previous inspection	1 April 2015
Telephone number	01270 872209

Excalibur Whizz Kids registered in 1994. It is one of four out-of-school clubs operated by the same provider. The provider employs three members of staff who work with the children, all of whom hold an appropriate qualification at level 3. The club is open each weekday from 7.45am to 9am and 3pm to 6pm, during term times only.

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