

Castle care Club at Meadows School



Meadows School, Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 0AH

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| Inspection date | 6 February 2019 |
| Previous inspection date | 14 October 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

This provision is good

- Staff work well together and are a close-knit team. They benefit from a strong management team and providers who are hands on and supportive. They reflect on and evaluate their practice to ensure they continually improve.
- Strong and effective partnerships exist between staff from the club and the host school. The manager regularly meets with staff from the school to share information with them. This ensures continuity of care and learning for all children.
- Behaviour is exceptional. Staff treat children with respect and teach them to respect others. Children use manners and are polite and courteous. Children are aware of the boundaries of the club and adhere to them. For example, they know not to go behind the grass mound in the playground so that staff can see them at all times. Staff praise children and are interested in what they have to say. This promotes children's feelings of self-esteem and self-worth and develops their confidence.
- Children's health is well promoted. They have open access to outdoors where they can exuberantly, but safely, let off steam at the end of the school day. Children enjoy healthy snacks which include a variety of fresh fruit. Staff sit with children during snack time and talk to them about what they have done during the day.
- Methods for sharing information with parents about activities their child has taken part in, and future events within the club, are not always robust enough to ensure all parents are fully informed.
- Children do not routinely access a wide enough range of resources, on a day-to-day basis, to ensure they consistently benefit from the best possible experience at all times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the way that information is shared with parents to make sure that they are always fully informed about what their children do at the club
- make the most of the available resources so that children consistently have the best possible experience.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's enjoyment.
- The inspector held meetings with the manager and providers. She looked at relevant documentation, including children's details and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to children and some parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Rebecca Johnson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. All staff have an extremely strong knowledge of the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of abuse or neglect, including wider safeguarding concerns. They regularly attend safeguarding training and know the correct procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child or a member of staff. Any safeguarding concerns are also shared with the host school. As a result, children's safety is assured. The premises are safe and secure and additional procedures, such as the robust checking of children who are present, further ensure children's safety at all times. Staff are exceptionally keen to update their knowledge. They take part in online training sessions and provide feedback about how they can introduce what they learn into the club. In addition, they are proactive in carrying out their own research to help them support individual children. Staff benefit from regular supervision meetings and the provider observes staff's practice at least once a week to ensure it is of a consistently good standard.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know the children well and provide activities based on children's individual interests. Children can choose what they want to play with and actively seek out staff to join in with their games. Children enjoy playing with different colours of play dough that staff have added glitter to. They develop their imagination as they make up a story about a spider who shoots venom and multiplies when it dies. They discuss that they need to catch the spider instead of killing it so that they do not get more spiders. Staff sit with children and show them how to fold paper to make aeroplanes. Children watch carefully before they try themselves. They excitedly shout 'five, four, three, two, one, zero' before they throw their aeroplanes to see if they will fly. Staff adapt activities to incorporate children's learning from school. They help children to hold a pencil and paintbrush correctly and copy the letters of their name. Staff listen to children read their reading books and help them with their spellings.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The club has a welcoming and friendly atmosphere and children are obviously happy to attend. They come into the club chatting comfortably to staff and each other. Staff are sensitive to children's individual needs and situations and provide additional support to help children through difficult times. A specially created den provides children with an area to relax and sit quietly in should they wish to do so. Children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are fully integrated into the club. Children learn about different festivals. They learn to write their name in Chinese. Staff help children to find the letter in English and match it to the corresponding Chinese letter, before they paint it on paper that represents a Chinese scroll. Children learn about St Valentine and have created a display board about love.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY290044 |
| Local authority | Worcestershire |
| Inspection number | 10067034 |
| Type of provision | Childcare on non-domestic premises |
| Registers | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| Day care type | Out-of-school day care |
| Age range of children | 4 - 12 |
| Total number of places | 70 |
| Number of children on roll | 118 |
| Name of registered person | Castle Nursery Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP904556 |
| Date of previous inspection | 14 October 2015 |
| Telephone number | 07801 865 245 |

Castle care Club at Meadows School registered in 2004. It is one of six settings owned by Castle Care. The setting employs eight members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including two who hold level 6. The setting opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm. The setting occasionally operates a holiday club from these premises.

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