

St Mary's After School Club

Belgrave Avenue, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1HT



Inspection date	20 June 2019
Previous inspection date	9 May 2016

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

- Children enjoy their time in the welcoming environment. They have warm and affectionate relationships with staff. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being.
- Staff provide a broad range of play experiences. Children are eager to join in with activities and enjoy playing alongside their friends. They can choose to be active, take part in creative activities or engage in a variety of enjoyable games.
- Staff build positive relationships with parents, who are very complimentary about the care provided to their children and the helpfulness of the staff team.
- Children have plenty of opportunities to be physically active after a day at school. They access a well-equipped outside play area and large field. This helps to promote children's physical development very well.
- Children are exceptionally well behaved. They are polite and courteous to each other and to staff. Older children help younger children and are very caring towards them. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and comfortable in the club.
- The owner works alongside the supervisor and staff and supports them well to develop their practice. She gathers the views of staff, parents and children to help to build on the good practice provided.
- Staff have not developed the environment sufficiently to provide children with opportunities to relax and rest.
- At times, children are not provided with opportunities to develop a sense of belonging and ownership of their environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the organisation of the environment to provide children with opportunities to relax and rest
- provide children with more opportunities to feel a sense of belonging and ownership of their environment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of staff's practice during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's enjoyment.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussion and by viewing their feedback in emails.
- The inspector held discussions with the owner and staff, and spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of staff qualifications and suitability.

Inspector

Maxine Allmark

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of how to protect children from harm and of wider safeguarding issues. They are confident in identifying the signs of possible abuse and know the procedure to follow if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Staff work in partnership with the host school. There are effective methods in place to share information. This helps to support the continuity of care and learning for children. Risk assessments are effective in ensuring that the environment, indoors and outdoors, is safe and secure. Recruitment procedures ensure that children are cared for by a suitable and well-qualified staff team. The owner has high expectations of staff and continuously strives to improve children's experiences. As a result, children are safe and well protected in the club.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff know children well. They plan a wide range of activities that children enjoy. Staff are innovative in their planning. They combine active, physical play with targeted intellectual activities to challenge children's problem-solving abilities and memory skills. For example, staff devise an activity using coloured cones in a set pattern. They give children codes to crack to negotiate their way through the maze of cones. Children enjoy the opportunity to test their intellect and be the first to crack the code and achieve their goal. As a result, children continue to develop the skills they learn in school. This complements their learning and prepares them well for future learning. Staff support children to create a range of artistic projects. For example, children enjoy making favourite nursery rhyme characters. Staff extend children's learning and promote their vocabulary, by asking about the shapes and patterns used. Children are confident, saying that the egg is 'oval shaped' and repeat new words staff teach them, such as 'concertina'. As a result, children's vocabulary skills are enhanced throughout the activity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave exceptionally well and treat each other and staff with respect. Older children are caring and affectionate towards the younger children, offering them support and encouraging them to participate in games and activities. For example, children about to move on to primary school talk to nursery children about their own imminent move to Reception class and reassure them about the next stage in their learning. There are many opportunities for children to engage in physical games. Children enjoy their play outdoors in the school playground and field. They engage in playing doubles tennis and a game of football. This helps to promote their physical development. Children enjoy a healthy range of snacks and drinks at the end of the school day. This promotes their good health. Children forge good friendships and share their humour with their friends. For example, when looking for four-leaf clovers, a member of the group of friends claims to have found one and when the fourth leaf falls off immediately admits that it was stuck on to fool their friends. Children demonstrate they are happy and secure in the club, with staff and with their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY271661
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10073272
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	3 - 11
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	99
Name of registered person	M.A.S.K (Mossley After School Club) Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP907360
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2016
Telephone number	07709624993

St Mary's After School Club registered in 2003. The club employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The club opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.50am and 3.15pm until 6pm.

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