

# The Play Base

C/O Barkston Ash RC Primary School, London Road, Barkston Ash,  
TADCASTER, North Yorkshire LS24 9PS



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|--------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Inspection date</b>   | 27 June 2019 |
| Previous inspection date | 12 May 2016  |

| <b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b> | <b>This inspection:</b> | <b>Outstanding</b> | <b>1</b> |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
|   | Previous inspection:    | Good               | 2        |
| Effectiveness of leadership and management                    |                         | Outstanding        | 1        |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment                  |                         | Outstanding        | 1        |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare                   |                         | Outstanding        | 1        |
| Outcomes for children   |                         | Not Applicable     |          |

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The management team has a very strong drive to improve children's achievements. Managers utilise extremely close links with teachers at school to identify and support learning for individual children.
- The club offers superb continuity of care for children and families. Staff also work at the nursery in the village. Exceptionally close bonds are formed with children, which significantly enhances their confidence and emotional well-being.
- The managers monitor and evaluate staff practice robustly. Among other things, they complete regular peer observations and thorough supervision meetings and target professional development sharply.
- Teaching is of a very high quality and highly responsive to children's needs. Staff consistently interact with children at their level to inspire and engage them in play. This helps to promote children's attention, listening and communication skills extremely well.
- Children are highly motivated and show excellent concentration in play. One example of this is when girls spend long periods creating a dinosaur world from bricks. They revisit this each day in the club, extending their imagination and creativity.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. Older children are excellent role models and thrive when offering support to the younger children. Children listen extremely well to staff and understand why rules and expectations are in place.
- Children's independence is fostered as a priority. For example, they make their own choices in play and feel that their views are valued. They choose their own snack and practise making their own sandwiches. They are encouraged to put their own sun cream on and choose a hat, when it is hot outside.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build upon the already excellent partnerships with parents to create even more opportunities for them to be involved in the club.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the club and outside area.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the trainee manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team and discussed self-evaluation. She looked at relevant documentation, including a sample of policies and procedures, training records and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to some parents during the inspection and took account of written feedback received for the inspection.

### Inspector

Helen Royston

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. Children feel listened to and safe in the setting. They develop an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe and why this is important. For example, they understand that they need to wear helmets when roller skating. They are helped by staff to the handrail while they practise getting their balance. The managers have all completed advanced safeguarding training. They use this wealth of knowledge to continually raise staff understanding. For example, they post two different safeguarding questions each week on the noticeboard for staff to discuss. Staff are very confident to identify different signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. They fully understand what action to take and who to share any concerns with. The management team drives high standards across the club. It gathers and uses the views of parents, staff and children, and has a clear and targeted development plan to help drive further improvements in the club. Managers identify that although partnerships with parents are a strength, they would like to build upon their involvement even further.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff actively contribute towards children developing key skills for school. For example, children are supported to learn numbers up to 20 and complete regular mathematics challenges. There is an excellent emphasis on developing children's literacy skills. Staff have all been trained to deliver a specific reading and writing scheme. They plan innovative activities that excite children. They expertly model and demonstrate what children can do. Children create their own 'potato character' using a variety of vegetables. They talk about the different vegetables and use their thinking skills, for example deciding that a sliced mushroom could be a 'hat'. They skilfully and safely use a variety of tools, such as knives and scissors, to chop and cut the vegetables. This helps to develop children's small muscles and movements in their hands extremely well. Children are thrilled with their creations and are proud to show their parents. Staff record detailed observations and track children's progress rigorously, using systems in place from nursery.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff plan rich and varied experiences for the children. For example, they have a visit from a company that brings exotic species in, such as snakes and spiders. Children spend time drawing maps of different countries and learning about different cultures. They enjoy learning about a range of festivals, such as Hanukkah and Chinese New Year. Staff take children to visit the local nursing home, where they sing and join in activities with the residents. This significantly enhances children's understanding of diversity and the wider world. Children have access to a superb outdoor space. They choose which resources they would like to have out. Among other things, boys delight at playing football and girls enjoy racing their friends in the go-karts. Staff have consistently high standards regarding hygiene. They remind children to wash their hands before and after activities. They identify and minimise possible risks to children, keeping the club clean and tidy at all times. Staff skilfully support children to settle in the club and transition through nursery and school successfully. This strong focus on children's personal, social and emotional skills provides a very secure foundation for children's future learning.

## Setting details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                   | EY317308  |
| <b>Local authority</b>                           | North Yorkshire   |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                         | 10073597  |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                         | Childcare on non-domestic premises  |
| <b>Registers</b>                                 | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Day care type</b>                             | Out-of-school day care  |
| <b>Age range of children</b>                     | 3 - 11  |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                    | 38  |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                | 73  |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                 | The Playbase Partnership  |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b> | RP904529  |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>               | 12 May 2016   |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                          | 01937 557 602   |

The Play Base registered in 2005. The setting employs six members of childcare staff, all of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or level 6. The setting opens Monday to Friday during school term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 9am and 3.15pm until 6pm.

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