

Inspection of Darlin Buds Ltd

Stifford Clays Junior School, Whitmore Avenue, GRAYS, Essex RM16 2ST

Inspection date: 9 October 2019

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children enter the club happily and are eager to start playing. They fully understand the rules and routines of the club and this helps them to feel safe and secure. Staff are friendly. They interact with children and build a warm rapport with them. New children settle very easily in the welcoming and reassuring environment.

Staff build close and successful links with parents and with teachers at the host school. They organise effective handover discussions that enable them to understand the needs of individual children. There is a good key-person system that supports younger children's well-being.

Children are fully involved in the planning of activities. Staff encourage older children to consider the feelings and abilities of those who are younger. Children of different ages play and develop their skills together in harmony. Staff are clear about the boundaries they set for children's safety and welfare. Children are happy to abide by the rules and staff help them to understand the reasons behind them.

Children enjoy playtime outdoors every day. They engage in sports activities and team games. Children develop their physical abilities as they play ball games and climb on large apparatus in the playground.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff work well together as a team. They offer children choices and provide a good range of play resources and craft materials. Staff talk to children about the things they have enjoyed at school.
- Children share their ideas and enjoy being creative. They work on making bracelets together from beads. Children enjoy drawing and colouring. They proudly show their work to the inspector as they colour their 'aliens' in green. Children have fun decorating biscuits with icing. Staff ensure that materials are always available for children who may want to do homework.
- Staff and children work together on projects, such as a new fairy garden outside. Staff display excellent plans that have been designed by older children and parents and teachers contribute objects for decoration. Staff make suggestions and give children ideas to develop their play.
- Children enjoy competitive board games with staff who help them to understand the emotions involved in winning and losing. Children cheer excitedly during a game of 'snakes and ladders' and comfort each other when a throw of the dice means their counter goes down a long snake.
- Staff encourage children to become independent. They seek volunteers to help

them prepare the snacks and dry dishes. They praise children for their good understanding of hygiene and food safety. They support children to be alert to allergies and other dietary requirements as they decide on their menu.

- Children develop excellent social skills. They interact well with each other and enjoy meeting up with their friends. Snack time is a very social occasion where all children sit together. Staff engage them in conversation and they talk about their food preferences. Staff offer healthy choices, such as brown bread and fruit. However, they do not always explain to children why it is important to make a better choice and this is an area they hope to improve.
- Staff build good relationships with parents and talk to them daily about their children's play and well-being. They communicate with parents regularly by newsletter and face-to-face chats. Parents say they are very pleased with the service the staff provide and say their children are happy and want to stay longer.
- Managers and staff reflect on the quality of their provision. They ask for the views of parents and children and continually strive for improvement. Managers supervise staff well and ensure they are happy in their roles. They support staff in their continuous professional development and provide a variety of training to strengthen their skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are confident in their knowledge and understanding of all safeguarding matters. They are fully aware of their responsibility to protect the children in their care. They know the signs that could indicate that a child could be at risk and know where to report any concerns. Staff conduct thorough risk assessments of all aspects of the provision, including the kitchen and outdoor areas, where they seek to minimise any hazards they find. Recruitment procedures are robust and all staff are vetted regularly to ensure they remain suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY455531
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	10075311
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 to 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Darlin Buds Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP529172
Telephone number	07915 059506
Date of previous inspection	19 April 2016

Information about this early years setting

Darlin Buds Ltd registered in 2012. The club operates from Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6.30pm, during school term time. There are four members of staff, two of whom hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the club available for children.
- The inspector discussed the planning of activities with staff.
- The inspector held a meeting with the managers and spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with some of them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including attendance registers, accident records and the policies and procedures of the club.

We carried out this inspection 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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