

Inspection of Willowdene Club

Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, BASINGSTOKE, Hampshire RG24 8LT

Inspection date: 19 November 2019

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children demonstrate they feel safe and are happy at the club. They enter the club with confidence and benefit from a suitable environment. Younger children enjoy playing in appropriate spaces where they can relax and take part in a variety of activities such as board games and reading books. Overall, children make their own choices of what to do and enjoy a good range of activities indoors and outdoors, which supports their school learning. Children follow their own ideas with confidence. For example, some children create their own pictures and designs with colouring pens, while others enjoy carefully colouring in different types of 'pop art' pictures.

Children are separated into different rooms according to their ages. This allows for the older children to enjoy more age-specific activities such as learning about plastic pollution and enjoying 'mad hair day', while the younger children enjoy role play as police officers and exploring with construction. Children have good relationships with staff and clearly enjoy the company of their peers. Overall, behaviour is good. However, on occasions, staff do not consistently explain to children why some behaviours are not acceptable, to help them develop a deeper understanding of the rules and expectations.

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

- Staff organise the premises effectively to support children's play indoors and outdoors. Children enjoy what is on offer, and staff support children's play purposefully. Staff engage and play imaginatively with them, which keeps children well occupied. For instance, children and staff enjoy pretending to be clowns using pom-poms and available resources as they put on a balancing show.
- Staff and managers work well together and create a happy environment. Staff comment that they feel well supported by the management team. They have regular training opportunities and supervision, which they say help them fulfil their roles and responsibilities. The manager regularly evaluates the quality of the provision and identifies ongoing improvements well.
- Staff overall are generally consistent in their approach to managing children's behaviour. For example, they encourage children's positive behaviour, such as good manners at teatime. However, occasionally, some staff do not correct or remind children about the behaviour expectations, such as sharing resources and handling books with care, to further support their understanding of these.
- Children benefit from a freshly prepared healthy tea or light snack, and they follow good hygiene routines. Staff wear appropriate protective clothing when serving and handling food to maintain children's well-being. Children are

confident in choosing and serving their own tea and snack, which supports their coordination and independence skills. For instance, children pour their own drinks and serve themselves jacket potatoes with beans and cheese.

- Staff support children's physical skills well. For example, children have fun outside daily and enjoying running games and team games such as football. In the lighter months, children enjoy exploring and investigating in woodlands, which supports their moving and handling skills well.
- Staff know the children well and adapt the key-person approach positively to help children feel safe and secure. Staff interact with children enthusiastically and support their needs and interests completely. For instance, children can add requests for specific activities in the planning book. Staff communicate effectively with children and use discussions well to ask questions and support children's thinking and speaking skills.
- Partnerships with parents and others involved in children's care are effective in maintaining continuity of care. For example, staff talk to teachers and relay messages as required when taking and collecting children from school. Parents have a good range of information available to them, such as noticeboards, and staff are always available to talk to them. Overall, parents comment positively about the staff and the activities available to their children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and her staff have a strong understanding of their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. Effective recruitment procedures are in place and all staff have appropriate checks to ensure they are safe to work with children. Staff have a secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. They are confident in the signs and indicators that may mean a child is at risk. Staff understand the routes for referral in managing any concerns that arise, including referrals to outside agencies as and if needed. This helps to keep children safe while promoting their well-being.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY471829
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10108878
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 12
Total number of places	112
Number of children on roll	54
Name of registered person	Hargraves, Marilyn
Registered person unique reference number	RP902579
Telephone number	01256324191
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2014

Information about this early years setting

Willowdene Club registered in 2013 and is privately owned. It offers care before and after school during the school term time and offers a holiday club. The club operates from Christ Church, in Basingstoke, Hampshire and uses various areas of the building. The club is open from 7.30am to 9am for breakfast club and then from 3.30pm to 6pm each day during school term times. The holiday club is open daily during the school holidays from 7.30am to 6pm. The club employs five staff who work directly with the children, three of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications. In addition, a minibuss driver is also employed.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracy Bartholomew

Inspection activities

- A tour of the areas used for the care of children was carried out with the manager of the club, who explained how the activities and play experiences are organised.
- The inspector observed children's involvement in activities at the club and their interactions with staff.
- The inspector observed children's routines, play activities and their interactions with staff.
- A joint observation was carried out with the manager of a planned activity and the quality of this was evaluated.
- The inspector spoke to the management team, staff, children and parents during the inspection.
- A sample of paperwork was viewed during the inspection, including some policies and procedures, children's records, and staff recruitment and suitability documentation.

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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