

Inspection of Abc Childcare at St Michaels

St Michael's School, Leigh Road, Atherton, MANCHESTER M46 0PA

Inspection date:

19 November 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 enjoy their time at the friendly and welcoming club. They arrive with enthusiasm and are warmly greeted by staff. Staff identify that younger children need more support by guiding them to become familiar with the club's routines. This helps children to settle quickly and develop a strong sense of belonging.

Children of all ages play in harmony. Older children take pride in acting as 'buddies' for younger children. They describe their important role in helping younger children to play and feel happy. Such practices contribute to instilling a caring and nurturing attitude in children.

Staff have excellent relationships with children. Children are eager to discuss their home and school life with them. Staff communicate clearly to children, giving them time to think and respond. Consequently, children express themselves confidently. This helps children to feel respected and valued.

Children display positive behaviour. This is supported by the clear routines and boundaries in place, which all staff consistently apply. When challenging behaviour does arise, staff use strategies, alongside the support of parents, to address it effectively.

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

- Risk assessments are conducted regularly to ensure that children are playing in a safe and secure environment. Staff regularly headcount children when they access other areas of the school, such as the toilets or outdoors. This helps to ensure that all children are always accounted for.
- Parents and carers comment on the strong partnerships they have with staff. They discuss the high level of care their children receive and how much their children enjoy attending the provision. Parents and carers talk about how staff regularly share relevant information from school and how this strengthens communication between home and school.
- The leadership team evaluates the quality of the provision regularly. Alongside parents and staff, children are actively involved in the decision-making process of the club. For example, children regularly consult with staff on activities and play preferences. This helps the leadership team to gain a holistic view of what works well and what needs to change.
- Children play energetically outdoors and benefit from plenty of fresh air and physical exercise. They enjoy healthy snacks and have continuous access to fruit and fresh drinking water. However, staff do not talk to children about the benefits of physical exercise and a healthy diet, and how it contributes to overall

good health.

- Leaders pride themselves in being fully inclusive. They discuss the importance of working with children and families to ensure that the provision adapts to meet the needs of all children, particularly those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This helps all children to feel valued and included.
- The provision has established exceptional links with the host school. Many of the staff also work within the school, which has contributed to an ethos of effective partnership working. This supports continuity in children's care and learning between school and the club.
- Children are courteous and friendly. They are well mannered and naturally show care and consideration for others. For example, older children hold doors open for their peers and support the younger children to climb stairs. Children demonstrate sharing, taking turns and working together. Staff use praise and encouragement in abundance to support such positive behaviour. This is in turn reflective of how children treat each other.
- The staff and leadership team place much focus on helping children to develop their independence. Children are encouraged to have a go themselves at first, which encourages a 'can-do' attitude. As a result, children are becoming increasingly confident in self-care and toileting routines.
- The environment is organised well. Children enjoy a wide range of resources both indoors and outside. Staff actively engage in children's play, encouraging them to use their thinking skills and imagination as they play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good knowledge of how to keep children safe. They access regular safeguarding training to keep their knowledge updated. Staff are aware of signs and symptoms that might indicate that a child is at risk from significant harm or abuse. They discuss the need to be aware of children and families who may be vulnerable to extreme views or ideas. They confidently discuss the steps to take to report safeguarding concerns to the relevant agencies. Staff are extremely vigilant around who picks children up at the end of sessions. There is a well-embedded password system in place. Robust vetting procedures help to ensure staff are suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY476588
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	10069885
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	5 to 11
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	ABC Pre-School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904175
Telephone number	07495 334579
Date of previous inspection	26 September 2014

Information about this early years setting

Abc Childcare at St Michaels registered in 2014. It is situated in St Michael's Primary School, Atherton, Wigan. The provision employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 2. Sessions are term time only, from 3.15pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Aisling Culshaw

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers and considered their views on the quality of the provision.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including evidence of staff suitability checks.
- The manager and the inspector viewed all areas of the club and discussed how the club's activities are organised.
- During the tour, the manager explained how she keeps children safe in the club.
- Time was spent speaking with children during the inspection to take their views into account.

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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