

Inspection of St Monica's Wasps

St. Monicas School, St. Monicas Close, Appleton, Warrington WA4 3AW

Inspection date: 22 January 2020

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 eagerly arrive at the club and are warmly greeted by the kind and caring staff team. Staff make the best use of the space available to them. They recognise that the transition from the end of the school day to the after-school club could be enhanced even further and are exploring ways that this can be achieved. Young children engage in quiet activities such as colouring and reading while they wait for their older friends to attend. Staff listen attentively to children as they share news about their day.

Children are happy and settled at the club. They are self-assured and confidently share their thoughts and experiences with adults. Children's behaviour is very good. They are familiar with the club rules and expectations and respond positively to staff's guidance. Children learn to respect each other, and older and younger children play extremely well together. Staff use praise and encouragement effectively to continually promote children's good behaviour. Children are able to actively make decisions and choices about what they would like to do and where they would like to play at the club. They confidently express their desire to play outside and enthusiastically join in team games with their friends.

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

- Staff have established strong and purposeful links with the host school. They regularly share information with teachers about children's successes, behaviour and any concerns. This helps to ensure that children receive a consistent approach in their care, and learning that takes place in school can be successfully complemented.
- Staff know children well and have high expectations of them. They gather detailed information about children's likes and dislikes and use this to plan activities that interest and enthuse children. Staff notice children's efforts and achievements, offering lots of praise and encouragement. This helps to raise children's self-esteem and develop a strong sense of belonging.
- Parents speak highly of the club staff and appreciate the flexible care they provide. They comment that their children love to attend, and that staff provide a warm welcome and know their children very well. Staff are available to talk to parents about their children at arrival and collection times. They also share information or messages from school, which parents greatly appreciate.
- Children learn about how to keep themselves healthy through daily routines. They understand the necessity to follow stringent handwashing procedures. Children are provided with a well-balanced range of snacks that reflects their individual dietary needs. They independently make their own sandwiches and pour their own drinks. Children demonstrate an awareness of routine and what

is expected of them as they help to tidy away their plates when they have finished eating.

- Children thoroughly enjoy playing with dough. Staff talk to them about the ingredients they used to make the dough and offer enhancements such as glitter. Children concentrate for prolonged periods as they play alongside their older friends, squeezing and manipulating the dough into different shapes.
- Children participate in activities and discussions that promote their awareness of diversity. For example, they taste lychees as they learn about Chinese New Year. Staff explain to children about different cultures and traditions, deepening their knowledge of the wider world around them.
- Staff continuously engage in reflective practice. They evaluate the activities provided and identify where any improvements can be made. Children's ideas are valued and contribute to future plans for the club. Parents are also encouraged to give their feedback through various means.
- The well-qualified and experienced manager leads a dedicated staff team that has recently been established. She supports staff in their practice, modelling expectations and offering guidance where needed. However, the professional development opportunities that have been afforded to staff so far do not focus on raising the quality of practice to an even higher level.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children are protected and safeguarded by the effective procedures in place that ensure those working with children are safe to do so and understand their role and responsibility. The setting's safeguarding policies and procedures are implemented effectively, and staff understand their duty in keeping children safe from harm and any risks. They confidently describe the possible indicators of abuse and how they would report any concerns that they may have about the welfare of a child. Staff are deployed effectively and adult-to-child ratios are consistently maintained. All staff hold paediatric first-aid qualifications, and documentation is completed to a good standard.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY377602 |
| Local authority | Warrington |
| Inspection number | 10143262 |
| 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 | 28 |
| Number of children on roll | 79 |
| Name of registered person | Woolston Wasps Link Club Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP903421 |
| Telephone number | 07597951421 |
| Date of previous inspection | 30 June 2016 |

Information about this early years setting

St Monica's Wasps registered in 2008. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 9am and 3.15pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Karen Cox

Inspection activities

- The inspector completed a tour of the setting.
- Discussions were held with the club manager and the operations director.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club and viewed qualification certificates, including first aid.

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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