

Inspection of St Bernadette's Out Of School Club

Bowerham Road, Lancaster LA1 4HT

Inspection date:

27 February 2020

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 thoroughly enjoy their time at this warm and welcoming out-of-school club. There are interesting and stimulating activities to choose from inside and outdoors. Children often spend long periods of time focused and engrossed in play. Staff skilfully plan to support children's interests and complement their learning at school. Children learn new knowledge and skills. On the day of inspection, children are involved in activities for International Polar Bear Day. Children investigate how ice melts, create their own polar bears and use digital devices to find out interesting facts about the creatures.

Staff provide spaces where children can be sociable, relax and unwind after a busy day at school. Children move freely between the inside and outside spaces.

Outside, they ride on bikes, play ball games and build dens. Children are listened to. Staff work closely with parents and staff in school to ensure that all children are fully included. Older children support younger children in a highly effective buddy system. Children of all ages and stages of development show respect for each other and are friendly, kind and considerate. This helps to ensure that children feel secure and creates a real family feeling in the setting.

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

- The committee, manager and staff are focused on providing high-quality care and support for each child. They work together to assess the quality of the provision and to make improvements. Recently, the management structure has been altered and this has had a very positive impact on practice.
- The management team support the well-being and professional development of their staff extremely well. There is a highly effective induction process in place for new staff and more experienced staff model good practice. All staff have access to a range of resources and training to support their understanding of the early years foundation stage. This has helped staff to understand and meet the needs of the youngest children in the setting.
- The manager and staff have developed highly effective partnerships with parents. Parents are delighted with the service staff provide. They comment on how much their children love being at the club and say they feel their children are safe and extremely well cared for. Staff regularly seek feedback from parents to ensure that they meet families' needs.
- Staff know the children and their families well. They use detailed information gathered from parents and staff in school when children start at the setting to ensure that their individual needs are met.
- Staff involve children in planning. An early years board displays children's requests and ideas. Staff ensure that they act swiftly in response to this to ensure that children know their input is valued.

- Staff are very positive role models and have high expectations for all children. They help children to understand and follow rules and routines. Children's behaviour is exemplary.
- Staff help children to take responsibility for their own needs and to follow good hygiene routines. Before snack, children are reminded about the importance of washing their hands. Older children support younger children as they undertake this task together.
- Children are provided with balanced and nutritious snacks and healthy drinks. Staff support children to understand about the importance of regular exercise and fresh air. This helps children to begin to make positive lifestyle choices.
- Children have lots of opportunities to develop their physical skills and are encouraged to take some risks as they play. Staff are effectively deployed to ensure that children are closely supervised, wherever they choose to play. They help children to understand how to recognise dangers and to keep themselves safe.
- Children make independent choices from a range of developmentally appropriate resources, toys, tools and equipment. They spend prolonged periods of time making models with different construction materials, engage in imaginative play and role play, read, write and retell traditional tales. Staff work alongside children, offering support and challenge as they play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The committee and management team ensure that all staff fully understand their role to safeguard children. Safe recruitment and selection systems are in place and staff are suitability checked. Staff know the signs of abuse and neglect and the action to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare. A range of robust health and safety policies and procedures are in place. Staff use risk assessments to ensure that the environment is free from hazards. Staff maintain accurate records for school collection and children's arrival and departure times. They deal with accidents effectively and correctly follow procedures for the administration of medication.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309718
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10109869
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	45
Number of children on roll	126
Name of registered person	St Bernadettes Out Of School Care Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518477
Telephone number	07904839327
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2015

Information about this early years setting

St Bernadette's Out Of School Club registered in 1997. The club employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, six hold appropriate early years qualifications at levels 2 and 3. The club is open Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.45am to 8.55am and 3.15pm to 6pm. The club supports children who speak English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julia Matthew

Inspection activities

- The inspector took part in a learning walk with the manager.
- The inspector observed children during indoor and outdoor activities and viewed all areas of the school that the club use.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, committee members, staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed documentation, including children's attendance records, evidence of staff's suitability and professional development, and policies.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children, and assessed the impact of these on children's enjoyment and levels of engagement.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.

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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