

Inspection of Practically Family

Moss Hey Primary School, Eskdale Avenue Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire SK7 1DS

Inspection date:

18 February 2020

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children are extremely happy. Staff are enthusiastic and friendly. They nurture and support children, making them feel safe and secure. Children take part in varied activities which complement their writing skills. For example, older children write stories about themselves. Younger children connect dry spaghetti using marshmallows to make delicate constructions. This contributes towards the development of their finger muscles, ready for holding a pen correctly. Boys count cups that they stack in a pyramid shape and take turns to knock them over, using paper balls. This supports the mathematical understanding that children are developing in school.

Children play imaginatively with recycled materials. They construct large boats and dens. Older boys make a cardboard television and remote control. They draw on the buttons and assemble a colander 'satellite dish' using boxes and tape. This demonstrates their creativity and artistic flair as they use different materials to make models that reflect real life.

Older children are good role models for younger children and interact with them throughout the session. As a result, even the youngest children are confident and play harmoniously with others. Children behave well and their manners are exemplary. They understand boundaries from a young age. For example, during the welcome session, staff teach children the club expectations. Children who have attended previously explain the rules. These include 'be kind to others', 'stay where leaders can see you when outside' and, most importantly, 'have fun'.

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

- Staff know children and families very well. They seek detailed information prior to children's attendance to aid the transition process. Some staff also provide additional care services for families, which means the relationships they develop are long and lasting. Parents speak extremely highly of the manager and her team and comment that they truly are 'Practically Family'. Partnerships with local schools are strong. Staff communicate with teachers and parents using effective methods which include leaflets and social media. Staff are well informed about children's current interests and needs.
- Well-qualified staff receive regular training and support. The manager utilises the rich and varied skills of her staff team. She knows which staff are artistic and who has an interest in outdoor learning. These staff are given the responsibility for taking a lead role in promoting aspects of the curriculum that they enjoy and are skilled in. This means that children benefit from a wide range of meaningful opportunities that complement their individual interests, skills and capabilities.

- The environment is well planned. Staff arrive early and transform the hall into a vibrant play area. Children are independent and eagerly explore. Staff provide 'points of excitement', slowly revealing additional activities to enthuse children and capture their attention throughout the session. For example, children sprint in as staff open a sliding door to reveal an exciting den-building area on the other side of the hall.
- The manager is committed to providing children and families with high-quality care and support. She reflects well on the provision to identify areas to enhance. There is a shared vision and ethos. This means everyone is involved in identifying and driving forward improvements. The manager is currently reviewing the play areas, following the recent move to new premises. She is focused on ensuring that children have opportunities for rest and relaxation outside of the 'chill zone'.
- Strong friendships are evident in an environment of mutual respect. Children happily play tabletop games together. Children provide assistance to their friends. They guide them to pull themselves up ropes on the climbing frame outdoors. Children's achievements are celebrated. They proudly show staff what they have accomplished as they tick off their clipboard sheet of '50 things to do before you are 11 and three quarters'.
- Children's physical health is well promoted. They help themselves to healthy snacks and are learning to keep themselves safe. For example, staff are teaching children to sit down when they are eating to avoid possible choking risks. Children are physically active. They balance along large apparatus in the school grounds. Children ride bicycles around obstacles and use various sports equipment outdoors.
- The club is fully inclusive. Children from schools in the wider community are welcomed. Staff are highly trained and experienced in supporting children with complex health needs. This means that all children are able to access the provision.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a good understanding of child protection procedures. They are clear about the steps to take if they are worried about the welfare of a child or the conduct of a colleague. Staff say that even though they have very strong relationships with other staff and parents, the safety of children comes first. Staff risk assess thoroughly and make sure the school premises are safe. They can contact the caretaker should they need additional help. Staff greet visitors at the main entrance, identification is verified and all visitors are supervised. This contributes towards the security of the premises and helps to keep children safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2579621
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	10148846
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 at time of inspection	3 to 9
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	117
Name of registered person	Practically Family Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP549826
Telephone number	07581156684
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Practically Family registered in 2017 and re-registered in 2020. It is situated in Stockport, Cheshire. The club operates from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, during school holidays only. It employs six members of staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6 and three hold recognised early years qualifications at level 2 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Layla Davies

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing and interactions between staff and children.
- Discussions were held with the manager and staff.
- The inspector spoke to children throughout the inspection.
- Feedback from parents was obtained.
- The inspector considered how the manager and staff work in partnership with parents and others.
- A sample of documents, including paediatric first-aid certificates, was reviewed and the inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff.

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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