

Inspection of Leckhampton After School Club

Leckhampton Primary School, Hall Road, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire GL53 0HP

Inspection date: 9 July 2021

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

The new manager is passionate about her role and strives to give children the best of care. She leads her small team with great determination and demonstrates a very good understanding of the early years foundation stage requirements. The friendly staff collect children from their classroom. Children beam at them and demonstrate high levels of confidence and emotional security. They talk together with enthusiasm and laughter as they walk through the school to the club's base rooms. Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the club. They have good opportunities to be active and engage in a variety of physical activities in the school playground, such as playing with flying discs and balls. Inside, children enjoy being creative as they build intricate models out of small bricks and design costumes for a gymnastic show.

Good settling-in procedures help staff get to know children and their families well. Children understand the high expectations for their behaviour. The manager ensures she and her staff constantly model how to behave and children respond, demonstrating exemplary behaviour. For instance, even young children reply, 'caring is sharing' and 'you're welcome', automatically when thanked for a kind act. All children listen to instructions and respond appropriately to clear guidance. They happily share, take turns and welcome others into their games.

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

- The club opened again after a short period of closure due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Parents cannot currently enter the premises. Staff who answer the door tell parents how their children have been. The manager shares required information through digital messages, social media and telephone calls to ensure continuity of care.
- Parents are very complimentary about the club. They say, 'the club is the best it has ever been' and that their children 'want to come every day'. The manager uses regular newsletters, highly regarded by parents, as a helpful source of information to share upcoming special events and any new information regarding the pandemic.
- Children develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. For example, they know the importance of handwashing, nose-blowing and coughing procedures to prevent cross-contamination. Children recognise that when they have played with an activity it must be sanitised by staff before they can give it to others.
- Staff promote children's independence as they play. They provide many opportunities for children to help themselves to resources without restricting the amount they use and give them the responsibility of tidying up when they have finished. Staff extend and motivate children further to inspire imaginative play

and widen vocabulary, for instance by asking about the wildlife they might find in the Amazon rainforest. Children respond by talking about 'jaguars and their cubs, sloths' and 'toucans living in the trees'. Later children make elaborate drawings of a jungle.

- Partnerships with the host school are excellent. For example, when required, the manager works closely with the school special educational needs coordinator. She ensures she implements effective strategies for children who need additional support, in conjunction with parents and carers, to help them enjoy all aspects of the club. This helps staff meet all children's individual needs fully.
- The manager makes thorough evaluations of the service the club provides. She effectively uses feedback from staff, children, parents, and staff at the host school to make changes which benefit children. For instance, staff regularly ask children for their thoughts and ideas to improve activities at the club, acting on their views and suggestions. The manager has identified the need to further strengthen the children's voice and has plans to set up a children's council.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have an excellent understanding of safeguarding procedures and what to do to help protect children from harm. They use rigorous risk assessments to ensure children's safety and hygiene throughout their time at the club. The manager continually reviews and updates these effectively to manage any concerns. Staff deploy themselves effectively to supervise children during their play and to provide them with the support they need. The provider has robust safer recruitment and induction processes to help ensure the continued suitability of staff. The manager regularly monitors staff practice, and all staff attend supervision meetings and online and on-site training to support their professional development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY556618
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10190232
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	4 to 11
Total number of places	71
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Child's Play Clubs UK Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP556616
Telephone number	07460253888
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Leckhampton After School Club registered in May 2018. It is one of four settings owned by Child's Play Clubs UK Ltd. The setting operates from within Leckhampton Primary School, Cheltenham. It offers care from 2.45pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, during term times only. Five staff work with the children. Of these, one holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Harvey

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the premises used by the children.
- The inspector observed children's interaction with staff and their engagement in a range of play activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector held a meeting with the headteacher of the host school and spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector and the manager held discussions about how she organises and evaluates the provision. The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including first-aid certificates, accident records and risk assessment information, and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.

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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