

Inspection of Spring - St Bart's Out Of School Hours Centre

Sandwich County Junior School, St. Barts Road, Sandwich, Kent CT13 0AS

Inspection date: 17 August 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

Children are settled, happy and confident at the safe and welcoming club. They are excited to join in with the motivating play opportunities that staff plan for them. For example, children are eager to use a wide range of materials, such as sheets and rope to build dens. They work well as a team to do this and enjoy each other's company. Children develop good social skills. They behave well and are polite. Children are kind and considerate to others as they play team games, such as football. Children enjoy physical play opportunities. This includes a wide variety of team games, such as cricket and rounders. They learn about the different ways they can move their bodies during yoga activities. Children understand the importance of healthy lifestyles. They independently follow good health and hygiene routines. Children and staff talk about healthy foods during lunch time, where they are provided with healthy, balanced and nutritious meals. Children have respect and understanding of other peoples' cultures. This includes talking positively about other countries and their traditions, such as the delicacies they eat. Children are creative. They enjoy a large variety of different ways to create art. For example, they paint with marbles and draw around each other to make life size pictures of their friends.

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

- Staff build secure and trusting relationships with children. They get to know their individual personalities, including their likes and dislikes well. This helps staff plan activities and provide resources and experiences that keep children interested in their play. Children have a good sense of belonging and positive well-being and self-esteem.
- Staff establish positive relationships with parents and keep them fully informed about their child's time at the club. For instance, they share photographs of what children have enjoyed doing. Staff encourage parents to add and share photographs from home. Staff communicate with parents at the end of each day. They share helpful ideas with them, such as healthy recipe suggestions to support parents to build on children's interest in healthy eating even further.
- All staff, including the managers, evaluate their practice together effectively. For example, they hold discussions at the end of each day to talk about how much the children enjoyed their play experiences. Staff use their findings to support their future plans. This includes how they would extend or adapt activities to be even better next time. The managers highlight that they wish to build on play opportunities outdoors, such as offering more planting opportunities.
- Managers closely monitor the quality of care and play opportunities staff provide. For example, they regularly observe them interact and play with children. Staff are provided with helpful advice to support their future

performance. This includes highlighting and sharing any new activity ideas. All staff complete regular training. They are keen to keep up to date with new information and continue to build on their skills. For instance, they recently learned about the different ways in which children play.

- Children take part in fun games that help build on the mathematical skills they are developing elsewhere. Children enjoy games that support them to recognise and count with confidence. For example, 'Connect Four', chess and snakes and ladders.
- Children are confident to communicate and share their thoughts and ideas with the staff and their friends. Staff ask children good open-ended questions and give them enough time to think and then respond. Children play a wide range of word and language games, such as 'guess who'.
- Children take ownership of the club during their time there. For example, they independently choose their own play and request what they would like to do. Staff implement children's ideas into the club plans. This helps children feel valued and listened to. For example, children said they would like to do some cooking. Staff took them to the farm shop to buy fruit. Children thoroughly enjoyed using this to make fruit kebabs and smoothies.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff have a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and child protection. They know who to contact to seek advice and how to report and follow up any potential concerns. Staff attend regular training and discuss safeguarding in routine team meetings. This helps ensure that staff keep their knowledge up to date. Staff complete detailed risk assessments to help keep the setting safe. This includes how to help minimise the risk of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Staff ensure that there are thorough hygiene routines in place. Children know how to keep themselves and others safe. For example, when they go on walks, they talk about the rules of how to cross the road safely.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2507941
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10194626
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	30
Number of children on roll	134
Name of registered person	Action For Children Developments Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP539433
Telephone number	01304 619800
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Spring- St Bart's Out Of School Hours Centre registered in 2018. It is an out of school provision located in the grounds of Sandwich County Junior School, Sandwich in Kent. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 9am and 3pm to 5.30pm, term time only and Monday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm, during each school holiday. The setting employs six members of staff, all of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 3 and above. This includes two members of staff who have a level 6 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting has received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the managers and staff and has taken this into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector carried out a learning walk with both the managers. The inspector assessed the impact of the quality of staff interactions and the play opportunities they provide children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- Written documentation was reviewed. This included safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures.
- At convenient times during the inspection the inspector spoke to the managers, children, parents and staff and considered 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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