

Inspection of 'The Zone' Out Of School Club

St Barnabas C Of E Primary School, Poplar Close, Bristol BS30 5NW

Inspection date:

24 November 2021

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Not met (enforcement)

Previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

There are significant weaknesses in the management of the setting, which has an impact on the safety of children. This is particularly in relation to safeguarding procedures, risk assessments and safer recruitment procedures.

Children enjoy their time at the club. They are greeted by friendly, welcoming staff and arrive happily. At the beginning of the session, children talk openly with the staff and other children about their day. Staff ask children questions to find out about their day and how they are feeling.

Children have plenty of opportunities to be active and engage in a variety of physical activities outdoors, such as riding scooters and playing football. Children behave well. They respond positively to staff when they are given guidance. For example, children help to tidy up at the end of the session. Children play cooperatively together and happily share and take turns with each other.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the management team have had to adapt the way they communicate with teachers at the host school. They arrange meetings through video call to ensure that they successfully share information about children's development.

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

- Although staff have an awareness of safeguarding procedures, the management team have failed to apply these in practice and do not follow the correct procedures for reporting concerns about a child. This puts children at significant risk of harm.
- While staff do complete risk assessments these are not effective, because not all risks are identified by staff. In particular staff do not ensure that the perimeter fence around the outdoor area is secure. This resulted in a child leaving the premises unaccompanied by climbing underneath a fence.
- The management team have not ensured that the procedures for safer recruitment are consistently followed. For example, references from previous employers have not been secured for staff. This does not ensure that staff are suitable for their roles.
- The management team failed to notify Ofsted of a significant event, which demonstrates a lack of understanding of their roles and responsibilities.
- Staff have a good understanding of children's interests and use this information to plan activities that children enjoy. For example, recently children have shown a keen interest in being creative. They independently access a range of resources and confidently use scissors, glue and tape to make their own

creations. Staff encourage children to problem solve and work out how they can secure lollipop sticks together as they make Christmas tree decorations.

- Parents speak positively of the club and comment that staff know their children well. Staff make parents aware of what their children are doing at the club through verbal feedback at the end of the session and through emails.
- The management team have regular supervision meetings with staff to monitor their performance. Staff have access to regular training. Recent training has supported staff to ensure that they are inclusive of all children's needs. For example, staff now reflect daily on the activities they offer and ensure that they can be adapted to support children's different needs.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported well by staff. Staff work closely with teachers from the host school and children's parents to ensure that children with SEND have appropriate support for their specific needs.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff have a secure understanding of the possible signs of abuse and are aware of the correct action to take if an allegation is made about a colleague. However, the management team does not act upon all potential safeguarding concerns effectively. Some areas that children have access to outdoors are not properly risk assessed to keep them safe. The provider does not consistently follow effective and robust recruitment procedures to ensure that staff are suitable for their roles.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is not meeting requirements and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
ensure all concerns about children's welfare are referred to the relevant safeguarding agencies in a timely manner	15/12/2021
improve risk assessment procedures to ensure that all areas of the premises are safe for children	15/12/2021
follow robust recruitment processes to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children.	15/12/2021

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY548974
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10190060
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 10
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	The Zone Out Of School Club Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP548973
Telephone number	01454 862233
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

'The Zone' Out Of School Club registered in 2017. They are based at St Barnabas C of E Primary School in Warmley, South Gloucestershire. The out-of-school club is open Monday to Friday during term time between the hours of 3.30pm to 6pm. They are open during the school holidays, Monday to Thursday, from 8.30am to 5.30pm. There are four staff members, three have a level 3 qualification and one staff member is unqualified.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kelly Sunderland

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector spoke with the management team, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the setting's safeguarding procedures and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.
- The inspector observed children's interaction with staff and their engagement in a range of play activities indoors and outside.
- Parents shared their views of the club with the inspector through talking with her and through written feedback.

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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