

Inspection of After Acres

Acre Hall Primary School, Irlam Road, Urmston, Manchester, Lancashire M41 6NA

Inspection date:

8 July 2022

**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 tell visitors that they 'really enjoy' attending the club. Older children demonstrate maturity as they walk themselves from classrooms in the host school to the dedicated rooms of the club. Younger children walk sensibly, accompanied by staff to the club. They demonstrate they know what is expected of them as they closely observe the host school rules. For example, they walk quietly in a line so not to disturb others. Children quickly settle to their self-chosen activities and happily engage with their friends.

Children love spending time with the staff. For example, as children play with balancing blocks, they explain to staff why they have chosen a specific block to pull from the tower. They then describe how this will affect the balance and structure of the remaining blocks. Children love to play outdoors and have access to the host school's outdoor facilities. They run, play football and scale the climbing equipment safely and with ease, which supports children's physical skills well. Children enjoy reading and have access to a wealth of useful literature. Younger children enjoy reading their favourite stories with staff. Older children find useful facts in educational magazines which deepen their understanding of current issues, such as recent changes to people in government and other topics in the news. These also provide opportunities for children to discuss anything that might be making them feel anxious. Staff discuss these topics sensitively with children and offer age-appropriate explanations. As a result, children gain a better insight into these, which lessens their fears and anxieties.

The provider, who is also the manager, worked in partnership with the host school and parents during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, children remained safe during this time.

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

- Children have access to a wealth of activities. Some of these are planned to complement children's learning at school. For example, children practise their writing skills as they carefully design and colour in pictures of their favourite cartoon characters. Children show perseverance and concentration as they colour carefully between the lines.
- The manager leads with passion and has high expectations for the club. She ensures her staff receive relevant training. In addition, she holds regular supervisions session with them. These provide an opportunity for staff to discuss their work, well-being and personal lives. All staff say that they feel 'very well supported' and are 'very happy in their work'. Staff will benefit from more targeted coaching to enable them to develop their interactions with children to a

consistently high standard.

- Parents are highly complimentary about the club. They praise the manager and staff for the 'fabulous service provided for them and for their children'. Parents value the opportunity to share their views about the club. Children are also given the opportunity to add their views and opinions. The manager closely reflects on their responses and makes valuable changes that benefit children and their families the most. For example, improved communication methods, including making even better use of the club's social media page and more detailed face-to-face discussions with parents, are working very well.
- Staff are good role models who treat children with respect. They give children constant praise and encouragement. For example, they tell them 'good job' as they follow the club's rules. As a result, children know what is expected of them and they are kind and highly considerate towards their friends.
- Children play cooperatively and demonstrate care and respect for each other. For example, older children explain the rules for playing table football with younger children. Outside, a group of children negotiate the rules for a goal-scoring game. For example, they decide who will shoot first and who will be in the goals.
- Staff engage in meaningful discussions with children. For example, while staff play tennis with the children, they introduce words such as 'deuce' and 'ace'. This helps children to develop their knowledge of the sport and builds their vocabulary.
- Children are encouraged to lead a healthy lifestyle. Snacks provided for children are nutritionally balanced and very healthy. Children demonstrate independence as they select their own snack items to make a wrap and pour their own drinks. Children who leave to go home before snack is served can take some home with them. As a result, children feel included and do not miss out on the delicious array of fresh fruit and vegetables.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff understand their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. They know the steps to take should they have a concern about a child or the conduct of a colleague. Staff are aware of safeguarding issues that may affect children. For example, how to keep themselves safe online. The club is safe and secure. Procedures for recruitment and vetting of staff are robust. The manager works with the headteacher at the host school to ensure the club remains in good order. Risk assessments are in place and are implemented well by all staff.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2545152
Local authority	Trafford
Inspection number	10215518
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 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Stretton, Joanne
Registered person unique reference number	2545151
Telephone number	07902205409
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

After Acres registered in 2019. The club employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 4 and level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 3.30pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Donna Birch

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager, who is also the provider, gave the inspector a tour of the club and talked about the range of activities that are provided for the children.
- The inspector spoke to the children and staff throughout the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children, indoors and outdoors.
- The manager took part in a leadership meeting with the inspector. The inspector looked at relevant documents, including the suitability of the 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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022