

Inspection of Buddies Out of School Club

St. Oswald's C of E Aided Primary School, Grove Road, Mollington, Chester CH1 6LG

Inspection date:

29 September 2022

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children are happy and settled at this friendly club. Staff greet the children warmly and are interested to hear about their day. As a result, children are keen to interact with staff. Children know the routine of the club well. They hang up their coats and bags independently before setting off to play. Children are excited to see staff and their friends. They thoroughly enjoy spending time here. Staff have established positive relationships with children. They use children's interests to plan activities that excite and motivate them. Children safely ride around on scooters and ride-on toys outside. Staff help children to balance when they go on roller skates. Children benefit from plenty of fresh air and exercise. They have copious opportunities to climb, run and balance when playing outside. This helps to promote their physical skills and their well-being.

Children behave well. Older children are kind towards younger children. For example, they help them to take the play dough lids off. Staff have high expectations. They encourage children to share the toys and resources. Children play harmoniously together, both inside and outdoors. They are praised for their excellent behaviour. This helps to build up their self-esteem.

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

- Self-evaluation is thorough and includes the views of staff, children and parents. Staff speak to parents regularly to gain their opinions of the club. This provides them with ideas about how they can improve their service. Staff continuously listen to and act upon children's views. They have incorporated regular baking activities into the club following discussions with children.
- Staff are encouraged to contribute their ideas through informal weekly discussions. They complete mandatory training, such as safeguarding and first aid. However, staff do not benefit from a robust programme of ongoing supervision and training. This does not help staff to further improve their skills.
- Staff ensure that they cater to children's dietary requirements well. However, children are not consistently given the option of a healthy snack. Although fruit is offered later on in the session, some children have already gone home having only had the choice of a less healthy alternative. This does not teach children about the importance of making healthy choices.
- Children are confident to express their own ideas. They make choices about what they would like to do and what they wish to play with. Children enjoy spending time with their peers. Younger children enjoy rolling out play dough and squashing it into different-sized balls. This helps to develop children's small-muscle movements. Children explore how to make new colours by mixing two colours together. They are confident to discuss their findings with staff.

- Staff have established positive relationships with children. Children respond well to their directions, encouragement and praise. Staff help children to develop high levels of confidence and self-esteem. They are positive role models for children. Staff encourage children to use good manners. They provide opportunities for children to find out about different cultures and festivals. This helps them to gain an awareness of the wider world.
- Good partnership working with the local school enables staff to have a better understanding of the needs of the children who attend. Parents are pleased with the service that the club provides. They comment on how accommodating it is. Parents thank staff for providing fun activities that interest children. Staff ensure all pertinent information from school teachers is passed on to parents.
- Children are confident to meet their own care needs. For instance, they wash their own hands before eating and put their own safety helmet on before using the roller skates. However, although milk and water are available throughout the session, some children are not able to access these independently. This hinders their growing independence skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff recognise the signs and symptoms which may indicate a child is being abused. They know the steps to take should they feel concerned about the welfare of a child. Staff attend training and have a good understanding of safeguarding matters. Good recruitment procedures and rigorous background checks ensure that children are always cared for by suitable adults. Staff assess risks effectively and prepare activities which are suitable and safe for children. They are deployed effectively, and children are supervised well. Staff have appropriate fire procedures in place and regularly practise fire drills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY446526
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10233821
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	25
Number of children on roll	51
Name of registered person	Maton, Joanna
Registered person unique reference number	RP907148
Telephone number	01244853812
Date of previous inspection	3 October 2016

Information about this early years setting

Buddies Out of School Club registered in 2012. The club employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2. The club opens Monday to Friday, from 7.45am to 8.45am, and from 3pm to 6pm, during term time.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Olivia Barnes

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 her evaluation of the club.
- A tour of the premises was completed with the manager.
- Discussions were held with the provider and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed interactions between the staff and children during activities.
- The inspector reviewed a variety of documents, including evidence of the suitability of staff, qualifications, first-aid certificates and policies and procedures.

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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