

Inspection of Playtarium At Sacred Heart

Sacred Heart Rc Junior And Infant School, Langford Drive, Luton LU2 9AJ

Inspection date: 4 October 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 arrive happy and safe from their classrooms. Older children make their way over independently, whereas younger children are settled in by members of staff. Newer children are given reassurance by the sensitive and caring staff. This helps them to become more confident while they are there. Older children are kind and considerate towards younger children. They act as positive role models and are praised by staff. Children understand the expectations from the staff at the club and, as a result, behaviour is good. For example, children discuss the importance of being kind to one another during a daily discussion called 'rule time'.

Children share what they like to play with and show excitement when it is put out for them. Activities outside are popular with most children, and the staff provide a range of resources to support them with their physical play. For example, children chase each other on bikes and scooters, while others climb and hang from apparatus. Inside, children participate in craft activities and enjoy making marks. They are keen to tell staff about drawings they have made and enjoy the praise that they receive. Staff talk to children about their day, and children delight in telling them.

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

- Children are safe and confident in the environment and ask adults for help when needed. They smile and speak to visitors, talking about the toys that are out and asking who built them. Children are encouraged to be independent and persist when facing challenges. For example, they choose their own snack. Children are all encouraged to butter their own toast. The staff encourage them to try before offering help to those who need it.
- Leaders are evaluative. To improve practice, the manager and senior team network with other out-of-school clubs and identify ways to enhance provision. The newly appointed manager has quickly formed strong bonds with parents and children. Children tell the inspector that they really enjoy coming to the club and particularly like the staff team.
- Partnership working with others is effective. Staff actively seek out information about the children who attend. They use this information to guide their planning and develop activities that enhance children's learning even further. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well. The club works alongside parents, the school and family support workers to ensure that children's needs are met and that they are well supported
- Staff provide opportunities for children to learn about each other. For example, they experience a wide range of celebrations and staff use this as an opportunity to teach the children about different ways of life. Play is supported with

multicultural resources, and staff have open discussions with children about what makes them unique. This supports children to learn how to respect each other.

- Children benefit from a range of healthy snacks and lots of physical exercise in the outdoor area in all weathers. Staff use these experiences to teach children how they can live healthier lifestyles. Staff teach children how they can keep themselves clean and about good hygiene practice to help stop the spread of germs. For example, children wash their hands before they prepare to eat their snack.
- Staff work well as a team to help ensure that the club is a fun place for children to come after a busy day at school. They share ideas and contribute to plans about what they are going to do for the week. They comment that they feel very well supported by management and enjoy working at the club.
- Parents comment favourably about the setting. Leaders ensure that all children are given key persons and this information is shared with parents. Parents comment that their children love attending the setting and have a lot of trust for the staff who care for their children. There is effective communication between school, the setting and home. Staff ensure that key information is passed to parents as they collect their child at the school gates.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager has completed mandatory safeguarding and designated person training. The leadership team has a good oversight of the training that staff need to do, and ensures that staff have a clear understanding of safeguarding issues and how to respond to concerns about a child's welfare. The leadership team ensures that all staff are deemed suitable to work with children. Staff are alert to potential risks to children in the local area, such as young children being coerced into gangs, and know how to identify this. Effective risk assessments are in place to keep children safe. For example, staff count children in and out of the cabin as they move from indoors to outdoors.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY484572
Local authority	Luton
Inspection number	10233958
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	50
Number of children on roll	123
Name of registered person	PLAYtarium Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP530266
Telephone number	07900 811558
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

Playtarium At Sacred Heart registered in 2014. It operates from a self-contained modular building within the grounds of Sacred Heart Rc Junior and Infant School in Luton. The club employs seven members of childcare staff, three of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am to 8.45am, and from 3.30pm to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Clarkson

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The club manager and the inspector had a discussion about the activities that were available.
- Children spoke to with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the staff and children.
- Parents shared their views of the club with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff members.

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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