

Inspection of Dream Catchers After School Club Court Lane

Court Lane Infant Academy, Hilary Avenue, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO6 2PP

Inspection date:

13 January 2023

**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 come in to the after school club relaxed and happy. They know where to put their coats and bags, happily greet friends and choose where to play. They start to play straightaway and enjoy sharing their news from the day. They enjoy chatting to the friendly and approachable staff, who greet them positively. Staff talk to every child and they warmly engage in conversations that highlight the positive bonds they have built.

Children have a wide variety of activities and toys to choose from. These are offered to children in a variety of layouts so children can choose to be at a table or relaxed and stretched out on mats. Children devise talent shows and make tickets for everyone to watch, creating a stage area and a space for the audience. Children play in the large outside space, where they can relax with a picnic or discover hedgehog homes in the nature garden.

Children relax and enjoy their time. They share that they enjoy playing and sitting together at the 'toast station'. There is a happy buzz of engaged children. They behave well and are fully at ease throughout the duration of the club. Children choose to relax with friends or join in activities run by the enthusiastic staff.

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

- The manager, who is also the owner, has a clear vision for the club. She provides an environment for all children to feel relaxed, at ease and happy. She ensures children feel safe and secure and focuses on ensuring children feel valued and equal. She regularly reflects on the club and uses feedback from children and parents to improve it. She provides effective support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and works positively with outside relevant agencies and parents to support children to access the club fully.
- The manager has high expectations for her staff. She supports them well to develop their knowledge and skills. She holds regular supervision meetings to assess their ongoing suitability. She supports staff's wellbeing through regular check ins and provides time for staff to discuss their practice. Staff observe each other and share feedback to improve and build on skills.
- Staff devise fun activities for children to join in with. They make cupcakes together and talk about the baking process. They count the number of toppings they have and listen to each other as they take turns. Staff support children to make cakes and give children tasks to complete. However, at times, staff do not always consistently give children the opportunity to complete a task independently, such as pouring flakes from the bag themselves.

- Children enjoy the toast station they have available. They select their toppings and discuss the different flavours. Children have fruit to choose from throughout the session. They happily chat and relax as they eat. Children wash up their plates at the end and joyfully return to playing.
- Staff talk to children about healthy choices. They discuss the importance of brushing their teeth and talk about how regularly it should be done. Children share their experiences together and involve everyone in their conversations.
- Staff role model well. They give children time to talk and share their ideas. They involve all children in play and ensure all ideas are listened to. Younger children are supported well and given plenty of time to share their ideas and news. Older children wait and listen and involve younger children in play. Staff help children to solve problems and celebrate their successes joyfully with them.
- Parents report that they are happy with the club. They share that children come out happy and excited to share what they have been doing. They feel comfortable to share any concerns if needed and value the daily feedback they receive at every collection.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a clear understanding of their responsibility to keep children safe. They all complete safeguarding training to learn about the signs to spot and procedures to follow. Staff know the signs to spot to identify when a child might be at risk of harm. Staff are familiar with the procedures to follow in the event they have concerns about a child's safety and welfare. They are aware of who to contact if they have a concern about an adult's suitability. Staff complete risk assessments of the spaces used before children arrive. They have clear procedures for keeping children safe and secure during the sessions and at collection time.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2591980
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	10265228
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	40
Number of children on roll	93
Name of registered person	Dream Catchers Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2591978
Telephone number	07368222965
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Dream Catchers After School Club Court Lane registered in 2020. They provide after school care from Court Lane Infant school in Portsmouth, Hampshire. The setting is open Monday to Friday, 3pm until 6pm, term time only. The manager employs 12 staff. Five staff hold level 3 qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Elizabeth Austin

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the after school club 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 and the inspector completed a tour of the provision and talked about the managers intention for the club.
- The inspector and the manager carried out a joint observation of staff during a cooking activity.
- Parents shared their views of the club with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation.
- The inspector observed interactions between the staff and children.

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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