

# Inspection of St. Paul's Out of School Club

St. Paul's Institute, Plantation Street, Accrington, Lancashire BB5 6RT

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Inspection date:

7 February 2023

**The quality and  
standards of early  
years provision**

**This  
inspection**

**Met**

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Previous  
inspection

Good

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### This provision meets requirements

The manager creates a safe and welcoming environment for all children. She ensures that children feel valued and consulted in matters affecting them. Children are actively involved in making decisions, for example choosing resources and the food for their snack. This supports children's confidence and self-esteem as they know their ideas are valued. Children behave well and understand staff's expectations. Any minor conflicts are resolved in an appropriate way with the support of staff. Children learn the impact of their behaviour upon others. Children comment that they enjoy their time spent at the club and describe what they like to do. They are happy and confidently interact with each other and adults. Children of all ages enjoy a group discussion as they eat their snack. They forge charming friendships with each other and play cooperatively.

There are strong partnerships with the school that children attend. Staff work across both settings, so information sharing is seamless to support children's well-being. Children are keen to talk about their day at school and staff listen with interest. They talk to the inspector about the 'Python Picnic' held by the club. Children excitably discuss how they sat eating sandwiches in the presence of the snake. This they say made them less scared of snakes. Children are energetic and motivated in their physical play. They make the most of the large outdoor space as they play a wide range of physical games.

Parents spoken to during the inspection all praised the standards at the club. They know that their children are safe and happy. Parents describe the club's staff in very positive ways, such as 'very friendly and professional'.

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

- The manager and staff maintain an inclusive environment, where they respect and value each individual child's needs and views. Staff take time to get to know each child. The youngest children have their designated key person, who supports their individual needs. Staff are very competent at supporting all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They are proactive in identifying additional support for children when needed.
- The manager and staff work in partnership with parents and the school. For example, they are consistent with the school in their approach to behaviour management. Staff update parents about any messages from school during daily discussions. Parents comment favourably about the club and state that they are confident that children are nurtured and kept safe. Staff are keen to get feedback from parents on the quality of the club. They value this information to help them continue to provide a quality service for families.

- Staff supervise children effectively. They closely monitor what is happening to make sure that children are having an enjoyable time. Staff are quick to reassure and support any children who seem upset. Children are keen to tell staff how they are feeling.
- Children follow the club routines well. They know they need to wash their hands as they come in from the outdoors ready for snack time. Children enjoy talking to each other as they eat pasta and cake. They say please and thank you and staff praise them for their good manners.
- The experienced manager has ensured that she and her well-qualified staff have completed mandatory training. They have completed recent training to refresh their knowledge of safeguarding issues. There are a range of policies and procedures to help the manager and staff organise and run the club effectively. The manager also makes the most of opportunities to extend and enhance staff's professional knowledge and skills through ongoing professional development. However, the arrangements for the supervision of staff are not yet fully embedded to provide a consistent approach to supporting all staff.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff are aware of the possible indicators that suggest that a child might be at risk of harm. They know the procedure to follow, and who to contact, in the event they have concern for a child's welfare. The manager makes sure that staff are kept up to date with current safeguarding guidance and legislation. The manager and staff supervise children closely at all times. They consider potential risks, such as fire hazards, and minimise them wherever possible. The manager has strong recruitment procedures to ensure that any new staff are suitable to work with children.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	502200
<b>Local authority</b>	Lancashire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10263983
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Out-of-school day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	4 to 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	42
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	55
<b>Name of registered person</b>	St.Paul's Parochial Church Council
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP518584
<b>Telephone number</b>	01254 233547
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	18 May 2017

## Information about this early years setting

St Paul's Out of School Club registered in 2001 and is situated in the church hall in the grounds of Benjamin Hagreaves C of E Primary School. It is managed by a committee. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens during term time from 7.30am to 8.55am and from 3.40pm to 6pm Monday to Friday.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Emma Barrow

## 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 checked the suitability of all staff working on the premises. She also reviewed a sample of documents, including the club policies and procedures.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and talked about their opinions and views of the service they receive. The inspector spoke to children at various times throughout the inspection. She considered parents' and children's views when deciding what it is like for a child to attend the club.
- The inspector observed a sample of activities to assess how effectively staff and resources meet children's individual needs.
- The inspector viewed all the areas used by the club to check that these are safe and suitable.
- The inspector spoke to the headteacher about how the club works in partnership with her school.

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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