

Inspection of OLOW Out Of School Care

Our Lady Of The Wayside Parish Hall, 566 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 4AY

Inspection date:

15 March 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 arrive at the club eagerly and are happy to attend. They follow the routine for arrival well, and quickly become engaged in the wide range of activities available. Children have secure relationships with staff, this helps children to feel safe. They are happy and engage with each other in a friendly manner. Children enjoy the club and talk about their love for the staff and the friendships they have made. They know how to keep themselves safe and will seek staff for reassurance. Children behave well and staff have high expectations for children's behaviour. Children listen and follow the club rules effectively.

Children have access to a variety of resources suitable for the different age ranges of children that attend and appropriate to their interests. Staff involve children in their choice of activities and experiences available. Children have opportunities to use their imagination during play. For example, children talk about pretending to be hairdressers, showing their hairdresser bag and imaginative items to visitors. Staff engage with children to create glitter pictures in preparation for Mother's Day. For example, they demonstrate how to sprinkle the glitter onto paper. As a result, children feel a sense of ownership during the creative activity and respond by following adult instructions clearly.

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

- The manager has a clear vision for the club and ensures that children have fun and exciting experiences when they attend. Together with her staff team, they ensure that they plan activities that children will enjoy. They encourage children's autonomy by allowing them to choose or suggest activities they would like each day.
- The manager is highly reflective and ensures that she considers ways to improve the activities on offer with the support of her staff. For example, children particularly enjoyed using clay and the manager ensured that resources were made available for children to extend their creativity and ideas when using clay again. Consequently, the proactive manager inspires staff practice and encourages them to bring ideas to help children enjoy the club.
- Children have positive attitudes to their play and the club is a hive of activity. They have strong bonds with staff, who are positive role models to children. Staff and children laugh and have conversations together. Children cover staff members' hands in glitter, they giggle together during creative play. Staff are nurturing and make children laugh and smile throughout the session. These positive relationships help children to feel confident and self-assured.
- Staff ensure that children learn and understand the world they live in through the celebration of festivals and events throughout the year. They encourage

discussions that challenge stereotypes to help children to develop positive acceptance of diverse cultures and beliefs. Children have plenty of opportunities to explore a wide range of activities, regardless of age and gender. For example, boys and girls enjoy dressing up and playing with a variety of clothing on offer.

- Children's health and well-being are promoted well. They have daily access to fresh air and exercise in all weathers. Children develop their physical skills from a range of planned activities and using resources outside. Staff liaise with the school staff to use the larger playground, this allows children to move freely in large spaces.
- Children are encouraged to clean their hands on arrival and independently access the toilets, closely monitored by staff. They enjoy healthy and nutritious snacks that are freshly prepared. They eat a variety of sandwiches and a selection of fruit and vegetables served by staff. However, staff do not consistently encourage children to be independent and serve their own snacks or help to clear their items away, when they have finished.
- Parent partnerships are strong. They are extremely complimentary about the 'fantastic staff' and the strong relationships their children have. Parents report that their children love the club and always leave with arts and craft creations. They appreciate and value the two-way flow of communication provided daily.
- The manager has strong links with the school. Staff work collaboratively with school staff to ensure that the continuity of care and transition to the club is effective.
- The manager is committed to professional development. Staff have access to regular online training. They attend staff meetings, supervision and communicate regularly about the club each day. Staff are supported by the manager to develop their practice.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff understand the signs and symptoms that a child may be at risk of harm and they know the procedures to follow. They have an awareness of the 'Prevent' duty, radicalisation, and extreme views. Staff know the procedures to uphold if they have a concern about a staff member's conduct. The manager has effective recruitment systems in place to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Online safety is promoted, and children know how to keep safe online. Staff are deployed well to ensure that children are supervised effectively. The manager and staff ensure that health and safety are maintained. Risk assessments are carried out regularly to ensure that the premises are free from hazards.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2595471
Local authority	Solihull
Inspection number	10263000
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	48
Number of children on roll	98
Name of registered person	Murray, Jennifer
Registered person unique reference number	2595469
Telephone number	07767812567
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

OLOW Out Of School Care registered in 2020. The club is located at Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School in the Shirley area of Solihull. The club operates Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 8.30am and 3.20pm to 6pm, during term time. The club employs seven members of staff, including the manager.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Maryanne Hepburn-Bean

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the 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 setting.
- The manager and inspector completed a tour of the club together and discussed the play opportunities available to the children.
- The inspector observed staff interactions with the children during activities and the inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the out-of-school club manager and discussed how the club is run.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.

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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