

Inspection of Alpha Afterschool

Deansfield Primary School, Dairsie Road, LONDON SE9 1XP

Inspection date: 14 March 2023

**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 enter this safe setting happy and eager to begin the session. They wait patiently until children not attending the club have left the premises and it is safe to play. As they wait, children sit together with staff and talk about their day at school. Throughout the session, children's safety is ensured. This is because the manager is extremely vigilant and monitors children's movements from inside to outside play. She reminds staff to re-deploy themselves where necessary.

Children understand the routine of the setting. As children arrive, either staff or themselves put away their belongings, placing them in crates at the side of the room. Children have a good selection of resources to play with, which meet their interests. Children are very engaged in their selected activities. They show sustained levels of focus when they play.

Children display good behaviour. They resolve minor conflicts themselves and play well together. Children understand that resources are shared and that they need to take turns. Children say that they play with friends from their own class and from other classes when at the club.

Children experience consistency in care and education because the setting liaises closely with the school. For example, events such as Saint Patrick's Day, which form part of the school's curriculum, are followed and extended within the after-school club.

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

- Children develop positive relationships with staff. They go to them for cuddles and support when they feel unwell. Children settle quickly and build confidence within the club.
- The club caters well for the wide age range of children that attend. Staff plan and rotate activities for children. They offer children imaginative play, role play, building, drawing and games, as well as craft activities.
- Children show that they are resilient problem solvers. They resolve minor conflicts over toys for themselves. Children agree to take turns and chat together contentedly as they draw pictures or build with construction resources.
- Children are respectful of others. They help to serve tea and queue in an orderly manner to sit at the table. Children listen to adults and follow requests and instructions, such as to help their younger friends.
- Staff promote children's healthy lifestyles well. Children use hand sanitiser before eating and enjoy a healthy tea, which offers children nutritious options, such as raw and cooked vegetables alongside pizza. Staff take children's

allergies or dietary requirements into account. They display these prominently to ensure that staff remember what children can eat.

- Children are encouraged to be physically active. They enjoy much time in the playground. Children have opportunities to run, play ball games or take part in group activities, such as hopscotch. They experience the benefits that exercise has on their bodies and release energy.
- Partnership with parents is effective. Parents state that their children are happy to attend and that children talk about the various activities they have taken part in. Parents are confident that any concerns they have would be dealt with appropriately.
- Leaders and managers promote staff's professional development. They offer staff regular training online and initial safeguarding training ensures that all staff are confident in their role in protecting children. Staff are supported to complete recognised early years qualifications if they wish. Most staff are long standing and often work at the company's other settings, including the nursery.
- The manager reflects on the strengths and areas for development of the club. They seek regular feedback from parents in the form of email or questionnaires. This feedback is used to evaluate what is working well and what changes could be made to enhance the experiences for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and managers ensure that staff have regular safeguarding training. They have comprehensive policies in place and ensure that staff understand their responsibilities towards keeping children safe from harm or abuse. Staff understand the different types of abuse and the signs children may show. The club has clear recording and reporting procedures in place. Staff understand about the importance of whistle-blowing should they have concerns about a colleague. Leaders and managers liaise with the school to discuss any concerns and keep children safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY292389
Local authority	Greenwich
Inspection number	10280282
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	40
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Alpha Chains Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901203
Telephone number	0208 850 1218
Date of previous inspection	16 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

Alpha Afterschool registered in 2014 and is one of four out-of-school groups owned and managed by the same provider. The club operates from Deansfield Primary School in Eltham, in the London Borough of Greenwich. It opens term time from 7.30am to 8.55am as a breakfast club and from 3.30pm to 6.30pm as an after-school club. During the school holidays, the club is open Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm. The provider employs 26 staff to work with the children. Of these, two staff hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Beverly Hallett

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 staff and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the club.
- The manager showed the inspector around the premises and discussed how staff ensure that they are safe and suitable.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection. They told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the club.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual and the manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed children playing and the interactions between staff and children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in 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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023