

Inspection of Ilchester Schools Out

Ilchester Infants School, Ilustrious Crescent, Ilchester, Somerset BA22 8JX

Inspection date:

24 May 2023

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Leaders do not ensure that staff implement all safeguarding procedures effectively and give clear regard to confidentiality. In addition, leaders do not ensure that staff implement risk assessments to minimise hazards and to keep children safe.

Children arrive happily at the club from school and quickly settle to play. They recognise established routines, such as to help tidy away toys before going out to play. Children chat easily with the friendly, welcoming staff. They are keen to tell staff about their activities at school. Children are valued by staff and develop a good sense of belonging. For example, they see their artwork displayed around the room, and staff encourage them to put their names on their designs and models. Children are polite and often put their hands up to ask a question. They play cooperatively in their games. For example, they use masking tape to mark out a road map for their toy cars. Other friends join in, and they decide to add shops and a restaurant and create a small-town map together.

The club remained closed during the initial period of the COVID-19 pandemic, and when it reopened, staff implemented more stringent hygiene procedures. Children have continued to wash their hands, and staff use antibacterial spray to help prevent the spread of infection.

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

- Leaders do not risk assess all aspects of the premises adequately. Furthermore, they do not ensure that staff understand how to assess risks. For example, there is a doorbell and security pad at the main entrance to the club premises for parents and visitors to use, but these were both broken at the time of the inspection. Leaders have not considered alternative measures to use to keep the premises secure, and staff leave the door wide open. This does not prevent unauthorised persons from entering the premises or from children leaving unnoticed.
- Leaders do not recognise the importance of recording all existing accidents and/or injuries that children arrive with to help them monitor children's welfare effectively. In addition, when they do make a record, they do not ensure this is handled in a confidential way, as they note these in the club's general daily diary.
- Leaders do not take reasonable steps to ensure children are not exposed to hazards at the club. For example, the older children use a heated glue gun for a craft activity, and staff supervise this initially. However, staff do not check that the glue gun has been turned off safely after use and that it is placed out of children's reach. This poses a risk of children picking up the gun and burning

their hands, as they are not aware that it is still hot.

- Children behave well. They show respect for others and wait patiently to have a turn with a favourite toy. Staff encourage children to take responsibility, and children choose the rules for their club. Together, they decide how they should behave and include rules such as to be helpful and kind to others.
- Leaders support staff with their professional development. For example, staff have all completed training to raise their awareness of ways to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and to promote inclusion within the club.
- Parents comment positively about the club. They say staff are friendly and welcoming and that their children enjoy attending. Parents comment that staff are understanding and supportive of their children and liaise with them well to help meet their individual needs.
- Staff provide a good range of activities to support children's interests. Children are keen to participate, and they enjoy their play. For example, they celebrated the King's Coronation with a tea party. They made colourful table decorations and decorated crowns to wear for this event.
- Staff liaise well with the host school to support a consistent approach for children's interests and needs. They know the projects children are involved in at school and use these to promote discussions. Children enjoy talking about what has happened at school each day and what they like doing at the out-of-school club.
- Staff encourage children to enjoy exercise and develop their physical skills well. Younger children concentrate well as they walk carefully across the balance logs. They gain confidence as they practise jumping down safely from a climbing frame. Older children like to show staff how they can swing upside down from a rope or score goals kicking a football.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Leaders do not ensure that staff follow appropriate procedures for recording any known injuries that children arrive with. This prevents them from identifying any reoccurring patterns or injuries that may indicate a safeguarding concern. Staff understand that they have a responsibility to protect children's welfare and know who to contact in the event of any concern arising. Staff keep a record of children's attendance and monitor any absences. However, leaders do not ensure that the premises is secure, to prevent children from leaving unsupervised. Furthermore, they do not ensure that staff promote children's safe handling of electrical equipment, to prevent the risk of burns. This compromises children's safety and welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
maintain the security of the premises to prevent children leaving unsupervised and from unauthorised people entering	14/06/2023
ensure staff understand the importance of recording all accidents and/or injuries to children, including those they arrive with	14/06/2023
improve risk assessment systems, with particular regard to ensuring the safe and proper use of electrical equipment, to prevent children from being exposed to burns	14/06/2023
ensure children's confidential information is held securely and is only accessible to those who need to see it.	14/06/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	142885
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10289176
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	28
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Michaela Brown & Julie Stapleton Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP527600
Telephone number	07715371357
Date of previous inspection	15 November 2017

Information about this early years setting

Ilchester Schools Out registered in 2000 and operates from classrooms in Ilchester Community Primary School, situated in Ilchester, Somerset. The group is open Monday to Friday, during school term time, from 7.45am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 5.15pm. It is also open from 9am to 3pm during some days over school holidays. The group employs three members of staff, two of whom hold early years or play work qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Mary Daniel

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 this into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector held discussions with leaders and discussed the activities provided and how staff support children's individual needs.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, such as policies, staff qualifications, and first-aid certificates.
- The inspector observed children's interactions in play, indoors and outdoors, and discussed this with leaders and staff.
- The inspector took into account the spoken comments from parents.

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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