

Inspection of R A B Late Play Club

R A Butler School, South Road, SAFFRON WALDEN, Essex CB11 3DG

Inspection date: 8 June 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 arrive at the after-school club and are welcomed by friendly, familiar staff. There is lots of chatting and laughter with their friends as they independently store their belongings. They choose from a wide selection of healthy snacks and sit with friends to share their news. Staff sit with the children at the snack table and join in with their conversations. Staff talk to the children about the wide variety of activities that are available in the session that day. Children are excited to express what they want to do once snack time is finished.

Children benefit from the well-organised club. Staff plan activities across two rooms, so children have space to enjoy them. The activities are planned with children's interests in mind. Staff also offer linked activities with the school, following themes and topics, for example a 'pirate week'. Staff also make the most of the wider school environment, offering children the chance to play in the outside areas as well as the school hall. Children are keen to know when they can go out to the playground. Staff remind them that they need to wait until everyone has finished snack first. Children are respectful to staff and know the routine, and so wait patiently. Staff are deployed in an organised way, so that all areas remain accessible to children during the core of the session. This offers children the opportunity to choose if they wish to play inside or outside.

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

- Children's behaviour is very good. They mix with all age groups at the club. The older children act as role models for the younger children and enjoy the sense of responsibility. Minor disputes occasionally occur between the children. Staff are quick to intervene when necessary, and offer guidance and support to enable children to resolve the issue. Children make positive friendships across the whole school. They talk about the club offering them the chance to play with different children that they do not typically have contact with during the school day.
- Children demonstrate confidence and good levels of independence. They know the routines and boundaries and make good choices. Children ensure they inform staff before leaving one area of the club and let staff know when they are accessing the bathrooms in the school. They help tidy up activities when they are finished, and are eager to pack away the resources with care. Children demonstrate appreciation for the activities and resources that are on offer.
- Staff plan the snack and tea menu with consideration to children's preferences. They support children to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Staff ensure children have access to larger spaces, where they can run and play ball games and enjoy being active. A wide variety of healthy snack options are available for snack and tea. Children say that they particularly like being able to

choose what they want to eat.

- Parents report on the 'exceptional' care the staff offer the children. They particularly praise the staff for the friendly, welcoming atmosphere. They appreciate the consistency of staff, which they feel leads to children feeling secure and well looked after. Parents of children with specific needs report on how supportive the manager and team have been. They care for their child's needs with dignity and respect. They comment that communication is excellent and that they feel well informed of their child's sessions.
- Managers have developed an effective partnership with the teaching staff of the host school. They communicate regularly to ensure children are well supported at the club. Staff receive communication about any children that may need ongoing additional support.
- The management team plan effectively to ensure the club is very well organised. A well-planned induction process ensures all new staff members attend appropriate training. This means that they can fulfil their responsibilities effectively and efficiently. The management team seek out parent's and children's feedback using questionnaires. The results then have an impact on any changes made to the service. The manager also uses reflection to plan improvements to the service. A clear training plan is in place for all staff, but the manager recognises this could be improved. Increased opportunities for staff to develop their skills with a wider training programme is being planned.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff receive safeguarding training regularly. They are aware of their role to help keep children safe. Staff are able to identify the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk. They know how and when to report their concerns and when to contact outside agencies if required. Staff provide a safe and secure environment. They use clear procedures for suitable staff deployment to monitor children's whereabouts at all times. The leaders have a robust recruitment and monitoring procedure to help ensure all staff are suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203876
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10289513
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	80
Number of children on roll	164
Name of registered person	R A B Late Play Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP518822
Telephone number	01799 528607
Date of previous inspection	28 November 2017

Information about this early years setting

R A B Late Play Club registered in 1997. The provider employs 15 members of staff. The club operates Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.45am to 9am and 3.30pm to 6pm. It also operates from 8am to 6pm on inset days.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sue Triscott

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in the evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at the relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.
- Children shared their views with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents and viewed testimonials from parents sharing their views of the setting.

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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