

Inspection of The Lime Trees at St Philip Neri

St. Philip Neri & St. Bedes Catholic Voluntary Academy, Rosemary Street, Mansfield NG19 6AA

Inspection date: 20 July 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 are thrilled to arrive at the club at the end of the school day. They are greeted warmly by staff, helping them to feel happy as they bounce and skip through the door. Children follow embedded routines that are implemented by staff, such as putting their belongings away and washing their hands. This helps children to feel safe and secure in the club. Children's emotional well-being is supported well by staff. Children sit together and talk to staff about their school experiences. They are keen to take part in the range of activities that staff provide. Children develop their imagination as they play alongside their friends and pretend to make soup. Staff encourage them to persevere as they cut an apple and snap broccoli into pieces to add to the mixture. Children proudly show off their creations.

Children enjoy spending time outside in the fresh air. Staff work with the children to set up obstacle courses. Children work in teams as they skip, bunny hop and develop their physical skills with hula hoops. Staff support children to build strong, caring friendships with their peers. This results in children sharing, taking turns and encouraging one another around the obstacle course. Children mix well with other children of different ages. They show their understanding of staff's expectations and the club rules. For example, children say that they should use 'kind hands' and inside voices.

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

- Staff have positive relationships with teachers at the host school. They gather relevant information from teachers about children's individual needs and learning. Staff use this information to provide consistency in the care they provide for children and to complement the children's learning from their day at school.
- The staff team are dedicated to providing high-quality care and fun experiences for children. Before children join the club, staff gather information about what children know and can do, and their interests. Staff talk to children and find out that they like doing. They use this information to plan fun activities, which are engaging and stimulating for the children.
- Children are supported to make their own play dough. They add a variety of ingredients to make pretend ice creams with the dough and are fascinated as the texture of the mixture changes. Staff use descriptive words to help children understand what is happening, such as oozing, disappearing and squish. Staff ask children questions to challenge their thinking, such as 'What would happen if we did this with real ice cream?'
- Staff promote children's self-care routines consistently. For example, children

independently wash their hands before eating, which promotes children's good health. Staff provide children with a wide range of healthy drinks and snacks, including water, fruit, vegetables, pitta bread and hummus dip. This contributes to children receiving a nutritious diet.

- Mealtimes are sociable occasions. Children self-select from the snacks made available. They enjoy sitting and talking with their friends and staff. Children talk about their favourite foods from the menu and what makes them happy at the club. Children say they have lots of different things to do and staff make them happy when they play with them and help tidy up.
- Staff encourage children to be polite and well mannered. They model positive behaviour, showing respect for others and being kind. Children copy staff and behave well. They work together as a team as they enthusiastically help to tidy away toys, taking ownership of their physical environment, and respecting and valuing the space they use.
- Staff are happy in their roles and say that they feel supported by the management team and well-being officer. Regular supervisions are in place to review staff's performance and identify any relevant training needs they may have. Recent training has helped staff to promote children's safety.
- Parents speak positively about the club and say that their children are happy to attend. They appreciate the flexibility the club offers. Parents compliment the dedicated staff team and are confident that staff know their children well.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff know the signs that may suggest a child is at risk of abuse. They can confidently discuss the safeguarding procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child. This includes if they have a concern about a colleague. All staff have completed training on a range of issues, such as radicalisation and female genital mutilation. Staff use daily checks and risk assess the environment to remove any potential hazards to children. The management team implements a robust recruitment procedure to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2631872
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10281158
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	24
Number of children on roll	126
Name of registered person	The Lime Trees Group CIC
Registered person unique reference number	RP532825
Telephone number	07766773723
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Lime Trees at St Philip Neri registered in 2021. It is located in the grounds of St Philip Neri and St. Bedes Catholic Voluntary Academy School, Mansfield. The club employs four members of permanent childcare staff. Of these, two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, 7.30am until 9am and from 3.30pm until 6pm during term time.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emma Curry

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 the evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed activities, both indoors and outdoors, and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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