

Inspection of The Arc Childcare

St. Josephs Catholic & C Of E Voluntary Aided Primary School, Calver Crescent,
Staveley, Chesterfield S43 3LY

Inspection date:

20 December 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 show they are happy to see staff, who greet them by name when they collect them from their classrooms. They eagerly talk to staff about their day at school. Children listen and follow instructions when staff ask them to put their belongings in allocated spaces. This shows that children have positive relationships with staff and feel secure in their care. Children freely access the activities that staff make available to them. They show high levels of engagement and their creative skills as they cut around shapes, draw and add glitter to Christmas cards. Staff support children's understanding of how to use scissors safely as they cut out noses for their pretend snowmen. Children are kind and encouraging to one another as they compliment their friend's work, saying, 'Wow, that's beautiful'.

Children are keen to involve staff in their play. They enjoy the staff's company as they play games together, modelling how to share. For example, children giggle when they take turns to carefully remove pretend body parts from a game without making it 'buzz'. Children have opportunities to be physically active, such as in the host school playground. Children state that they enjoy running around and climbing on the trim trail. They tell visitors how staff keep them safe by helping them balance and encouraging them to have a go.

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

- Staff provide a wide range of activities to meet the needs and interests of the children. Children tell visitors they can relax and do what they enjoy when they attend the club. The staff engage with the children and support them in their chosen activities. For instance, children explore and find out how to make a variety of patterns and shapes using playdough, as they pinch, pat and poke using their hands.
- Staff give children choices, encouraging their opinions to be heard in the club. For example, children vote on what activities they want to play with, helping to give them a sense of independence and ownership.
- Staff provide children with a wide range of books. Older children read stories to their peers. Staff help children to understand the story, for example asking them questions and introducing new vocabulary. This helps children to develop a love of books.
- Overall, staff have positive relationships with teachers at the host school. For example, they share pertinent information about children's safety and care. However, staff do not obtain information about children's learning experiences at school. This means staff do not complement the learning children receive during the day.
- Staff promote children's independence well. For example, staff encourage

children to independently wash their hands and put on their coats.

- Staff help children to understand the importance of keeping hydrated. For example, staff provide children unlimited access to drinking water and encourage them to drink regularly. Mealtimes are a sociable experience. Children sit together and enjoy healthy meals and snacks as they talk with their friends about their interests.
- Staff encourage children to work together to develop club boundaries and rules. For example, children agree that they need to be kind to each other, share toys and use their indoor walking feet.
- Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour and, as a result, children behave well. Children enjoy the praise they receive from staff. For instance, staff clap their hands to gain the children's attention when the routine changes. Children stop what they are doing to listen to instructions, quickly tidying away resources and games before moving on to the next activity.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. For example, staff gather information from parents about children's interests and needs. They use this information to plan interesting and engaging activities. Staff keep parents informed about their children's experiences at the club. Parents comment positively about the club and know their children are happy and safe.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff have a good knowledge of safeguarding and understand the signs and symptoms of abuse. They keep up to date with training that helps them to understand their responsibilities to keep children safe. The manager and staff know the procedures to follow if they are worried about a child's welfare. This includes staff knowing the correct procedure to follow if an allegation of abuse is made against a colleague. Systems are in place to ensure that children are not collected by unknown or unauthorised people. Children are supervised well. Staff risk assess the environment to help identify and remove potential hazards to children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2638662
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10295717
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	2 to 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	The Arc Childcare Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	2638658
Telephone number	07723391051
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Arc Childcare registered in 2021 and is located in Staveley, Derbyshire. It operates from rooms in St. Josephs Catholic & C Of E Voluntary Aided Primary School. The club employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an early years qualification at level 3 and one at level 2. The club opens Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.45am and 3.30pm until 5.30pm. During school holidays, the club opens Monday to Friday, from 8.30am until 5.30pm.

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 their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed activities and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke with the staff and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of documents, including evidence of paediatric first-aid training.
- 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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