

Inspection of Orchard Childcare @ St Marys

St. Marys Infants, West Street, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 2PT

Inspection date:

15 January 2024

**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 to the club happy. Staff fondly greet them at the door by their names. They involve children in discussions about their day as they hang up their belongings such as book bags and water bottles. Children demonstrate a good knowledge of the club's routines. Staff know children well and are attentive to their individual needs. For example, they ensure that younger children have access to sufficient resources and space to enable them to play and relax if they feel tired.

Children form meaningful friendships with staff and enjoy one another's company. They take part in crafts, role play and outdoor activities all year round. This helps children to build on their physical, creative and social abilities. For instance, children create amazing dough models of animals that hibernate. They concentrate intently as they use tools to create markings on their tortoise shells. Older children have tremendous fun playing tennis in the playground.

Staff have high expectations for every child. They implement effective routines to support children to have a clear knowledge of the expectations for their behaviour. For example, on arrival, children recite the school's prayer and the club's rules. This reminds children to have consideration for others and to act kindly. Children's behaviour is good.

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

- Children develop their concentration, pattern recognition, decision-making and problem-solving skills well, for instance when playing chess. Staff listen carefully to children and explain the rules to support their knowledge of the game. Children further develop their knowledge of mathematical concepts as they learn the different ways the pieces can move.
- Staff provide a vast range of opportunities for children to be creative and use their imaginations. Children practise their writing skills while making cards and drawing. For instance, they spend sustained periods of time creating posters of hibernating animals using fact files. Children learn that animals, such as snails, bears and hedgehogs, hibernate. They enjoy creating houses out of cardboard boxes. Younger children use their imaginations as they dress up dolls and pretend to take them on adventurous experiences.
- Children speak positively about staff and the things to do after school. They comment that they like 'making things' and that staff are 'fun'.
- Children enjoy taking part in the wide range of outdoor activities on offer at the club. They can access the school playground throughout the after-school session. Staff join in children's play as they create cookies with dough, look at books and play ball games.

- The management team and staff ensure that the club is well organised. They are aware of their roles and responsibilities and work together to make sure that they promote children's well-being and safety and to ensure the smooth running of the session.
- Staff promote children's independence skills well. At snack time, children show they know the routine. For instance, they access the bathroom to wash their hands. Children create their own wraps and crackers with a selection of healthy fillings such as tomatoes, cheeses, cucumbers and carrots.
- The club is inclusive. Staff have developed good partnerships with the school. The manager regularly meets with the school's special educational needs coordinator to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities well. This helps staff to understand children's individual needs. It also encourages continuity and supports children to settle in quickly and enjoy their time at the club.
- Parents are highly complimentary about the friendly staff team and the beautiful craft work their children bring home from the club. They comment that their children love the afternoon and breakfast club and there is a wonderful, professional team. Parents say their children are never bored and that they are safe and have a great time. However, staff do not consistently share and obtain precise information, especially during children's settling-in periods, to enhance partnership with parents even further.
- The management team implements effective safer recruitment strategies to ensure the suitability of staff. It provides staff with regular ongoing support for their continuous professional development, such as through supervision, meetings and training opportunities. This helps to ensure staff's ongoing professional development and drive forward the quality of the club.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462640
Local authority	Sutton
Inspection number	10307894
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	52
Number of children on roll	90
Name of registered person	Orchard Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP910027
Telephone number	07981991894
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

Orchard Childcare @ St Marys registered in 2013. The club is independently run and employs 10 members of staff. Of these, five staff hold appropriate qualifications ranging from level 2 to 3. The club operates during term time, Monday to Friday. Sessions are available from 7.30am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Trisha Edward

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 the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the club.
- The nominated individual and the inspector completed a learning walk together.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed staff's interactions with children and monitored children's engagement in a range of play activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation.
- The nominated individual and the inspector met to discuss how the club is organised.
- The inspector reviewed documentation, including the suitability of staff and paediatric first-aid certificates.

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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