

Inspection of Little Saplings BASC Ltd

St. Pauls C E Primary School, Hindle Drive, Royton, Oldham OL2 5LU

Inspection date: 5 March 2024

**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 eager to enter this bright and inviting club and settle quickly. Staff have high expectations for their behaviour, and children demonstrate a secure understanding of the daily routine. They resolve potential conflicts independently and manage their emotions well. The club is incredibly well organised, and staff are vigilant in making sure it is a safe and secure space to play. The environment is carefully planned, with activities and resources that build on children's interests. Staff work closely with teachers at school, which keeps them up to date on what children are learning. As a result of this partnership, staff offer activities at the club that complement children's learning at school.

Children are confident and show a strong sense of belonging at the club. Children of all ages play together amicably and voice their ideas and opinions during the session. Older children show kindness to younger children as they demonstrate how to open milk bottles and support them to locate their coats for outdoor play. Children relish these opportunities to be positive role models and display exemplary manners and respect for one another.

Staff are attentive and know the individual children very well. They expertly engage with them, offering praise and encouragement. Children follow the club rules and listen intently as the staff remind them of how to play safely. Children confidently speak about how they keep themselves safe, especially online and when out in the local community. Children are learning to manage their own risks.

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

- The managers work together seamlessly and have a clear and ambitious vision for the club. They are highly reflective and eager to implement a programme of continuous improvement. Accurate and thorough self-evaluation successfully incorporates the views of children. This demonstrates that children's views are valued.
- All staff are paediatric first-aid trained and have access to an online portal for a variety of further training needs. This helps to keep children safe from harm. Staff say they enjoy working at the club and feel valued and supported in their roles. A robust induction process, followed by a programme of professional development, support and supervision, helps them to make continuous improvements to their practice. This has a positive impact on children's care and well-being.
- Parents are highly complimentary about the club and the professionalism of the team. The thorough information gathering and relationship building help parents to develop a strong sense of trust and reassurance. All children's needs are

continuously met, and staff know the children very well. This creates a happy and harmonious environment for children to play.

- Staff promote children's self-care skills well. Children are encouraged to use the bathroom facilities independently, and children wash their hands without being reminded. Hygiene practices are effective across the club, as staff teach children to become increasingly independent in managing their personal needs.
- Leaders recognise that children need a good breakfast before school. As a result, they have a selection of healthy options for children to choose from as they arrive for breakfast. This helps to promote better outcomes for the rest of their school day.
- Children are confident communicators. For example, they are eager to express their views and explain that they 'love playing with their friends' and the staff are 'kind and friendly'. Children are eager to help with daily tasks and work together amicably to tidy up before leaving the club. This demonstrates that children have a good understanding of the routine and a great deal of respect for one another.
- Children have access to a secure outdoor area, and opportunities for outdoor play are plentiful. They play a variety of ball games and take part in collaborative role play, with plenty of space to run around freely. This successfully promotes children's physical development.
- Partnership working is strong. The staff have forged close links with teachers from the school. They are in constant communication and know the importance of information sharing to support children's well-being. They work exceptionally well together in sharing strategies to maintain a consistent approach to supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. These excellent links with the host school help to ensure that transitions run smoothly and support children's continuity of care.

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	2655799
Local authority	Oldham
Inspection number	10308756
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	3 to 11
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	115
Name of registered person	Little Saplings BASC Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2655798
Telephone number	07850984538
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Saplings BASC Ltd registered in 2021. It operates from St Paul's CofE Primary School and is situated in Royton, Oldham. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, one member of staff holds qualified teacher status and two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 5. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during term time. Sessions are from 7.45am to 8.45am and from 3.15pm to 5.30pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marianne McDowell

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector completed a learning walk with the manager of the areas used by the club to find out how they are organised and the range of activities provided, both indoors and outdoors.
- Interactions between staff and children were observed, and children told the inspector about what they like to do when they are at the club.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke with the managers about the leadership and management of the club.
- Staff and children's views were taken into account as the inspector talked to them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of relevant records and documentation, including evidence of staff suitability and training.

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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