

Inspection of Moorside After School Club

Moorside Primary School, Bowerham Road, LANCASTER LA1 4HT

Inspection date:

11 September 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 are safe and happy at the busy after-school club. They have plenty of space to relax with their friends after their school day. Children choose from a range of activities such as arts, crafts and games such as chess and pool. Staff are on hand to support children with activities that link to their learning at school. For instance, they play mathematics-based games and enjoy reading. Children spend time outside each day. They enjoy playing football and use the outdoor gymnasium equipment under staff's supervision. Children are supported mainly in their peer groups but do spend some time with those of different ages and their siblings, where appropriate.

Staff are friendly and form good bonds with children as they chat about holidays and their school day, for instance. Staff use discussions well to support children's understanding around a range of issues. For example, staff and children discuss staying safe online. Children behave well. They understand the routines at the club and meet staff's high expectations of them. Children understand why rules are in place, such as staying with the group. Children enjoy their time at the club and benefit from the range of activities and good-quality interactions with staff.

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

- Leadership is strong and the club is well organised. Staff lead groups of children, who are grouped together by age, and plan activities accordingly. Older children are involved in some planning activities. For instance, they help staff to do the weekly online supermarket order for the club. This promotes their sense of belonging and responsibility.
- Staff encourage children to get involved and take responsibility for their environment. For example, children make sure their room is tidy as they leave. Staff support younger children to take care of the garden area and to fill up the bird feeders. Children develop their understanding of their role in the club.
- Younger children have dedicated key staff who liaise with their school teachers to support their learning. Staff support younger children sensitively as they get used to the new environment and routines. Staff get to know children well and develop strong attachments. This helps to boost children's confidence and supports them to benefit from their time at the club.
- Staff support children to develop their personal skills. Children take care of their own belongings and their self-care needs. They are polite and respectful. Children happily chat to visitors to their club. Staff remind children to stay hydrated and discuss how to maintain healthy lifestyles. They learn important life skills.
- Staff help children to find out about other countries and cultures through topical

activities. For instance, they look at a range of festivals and find out about countries competing in sporting competitions, such as the European Football Championship. Children develop an understanding of the wider world.

- Staff encourage children to have high aspirations. For instance, with staff's support children have entered short story and illustration competitions. This helps to boost children's self-esteem and promotes positive attitudes.
- Staff work alongside other agencies and in close partnerships with parents to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff understand and respond to children's needs well. Parents are appreciative of the work that staff put in to support them. This promotes consistency in children's care.
- Staff follow clear and strong procedures to ensure children's safety and security. For instance, the provider has worked with the school, whose site they operate on, to implement additional security measures on the premises. Children's safety is a key focus at the busy club.
- Leaders demonstrate good oversight of the club and diligence in fulfilling their roles and responsibilities. Staff are well supported in their roles and have access to an online training platform. However, training is not always insightfully targeted to enhance their skills and knowledge and continually raise the good standard of practice.

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	EY410291
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10355434
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	110
Number of children on roll	189
Name of registered person	Dallas Road Kids Club
Registered person unique reference number	RP531968
Telephone number	01524 381403
Date of previous inspection	29 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

Moorside After School Club registered in 2010 and operates independently from Moorside Primary School in Lancaster. The club is open Monday to Friday from 3.15pm until 6pm during term time. The club employs 11 members of childcare staff, including the manager. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 6 and six at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Amy Johnson

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents during the inspection.
- The provider spoke to the inspector about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The provider and the inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity.
- The provider showed the inspector appropriate documentation on request.

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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