

Inspection of School's Out Holiday Squad

Shadsworth County Junior School, Arran Avenue, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 2ET

Inspection date:

16 March 2022

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

Staff ensure that children receive a warm welcome to the club. They greet each child as they arrive and children respond enthusiastically. Staff plan sessions to provide children with a good range of activities. Children are actively involved in making decisions. For example, they choose new resources and food for their snack. This supports children's confidence and self-esteem as they know their ideas are valued. Children behave well and understand staff's expectations. They resolve minor conflicts in an appropriate way. Children learn the impact of their behaviour upon others.

There are strong partnerships with the schools that children attend. Staff across all the settings share information to support children's well-being. Children are keen to talk about their day at school and staff listen with interest. They talk to staff about the parents evening that is taking place. Children are excited that parents will be listening to good feedback from their class teacher.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, staff adapted the way they worked and kept in touch with the children and their families. They arranged live sports sessions through video calls so children could still take part at home. Children say they love the club. They talk confidently about their favourite activities and say that staff are 'very kind and fun'. They enjoy playing active games with staff outdoors. Staff motivate children to join in and exercise in the fresh air, and engage them well.

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

- There are very good relationships between staff and children within the club. When children start attending, they have a 'buddy' to help them settle. Older children make sure that younger ones are looked after. Staff are excellent role models. They have a very calm and consistent approach.
- Staff take time to get to know each child. They find out about children's interests and needs at home as part of the induction process. Children have a designated key person, who supports their individual needs. Staff are very competent at supporting all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They are proactive in identifying additional support for children when needed.
- Children show kindness and respect for others. They listen to each other's views and opinions. This leads to lively discussions, such as whether girls are better than boys at dodgeball. Staff support these conversations and help children to rethink preconceived ideas and stereotypes. This helps to create an inclusive environment, where everyone feels welcomed.
- Staff make sure that they plan time to speak to parents as they collect their

children. They use this time to share information and to build strong relationships with families. Children are often so involved in their activities that they ask their parents to wait until they have finished. Parents praise the standards at the club. They know that their children are safe and happy. Parents describe the club's staff in very positive ways, such as 'very friendly and professional'

- Children follow the club routines well. They know they need to tidy up before they sit at the table for snack. Children enjoy talking to each other as they eat the fruit, noodles and sandwiches. They say 'please' and 'thank you' and staff praise them for their good manners.
- Staff are keen to get feedback from parents on the quality of the club. They value this information to help them continue to provide a quality service for families. Staff have regular staff meetings to share their thoughts on what they do well and where they could improve. The manager is committed to ensuring his staff's well-being. Staff know they can speak to the manager about their needs. However, the arrangements for the supervision of staff are not yet fully embedded to provide a consistent approach to supporting all staff.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and staff know the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect, and know what action to take if they have concerns about a child. Staff have an understanding of broader safeguarding issues, such as witchcraft, breast ironing, prevent duty and county lines. Managers follow robust recruitment and induction procedures to ensure the suitability of all staff. Staff complete comprehensive risk assessments and safety checks for all areas used by the club, including outdoors, to identify and remove any hazards. Children play in a secure and safe environment. Staff are vigilant in checking who picks children up at the end of the session.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2533288
Local authority	Blackburn with Darwen
Inspection number	10215147
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	45
Number of children on roll	82
Name of registered person	Baker, Christopher
Registered person unique reference number	2533287
Telephone number	07783165251
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

School's Out Holiday Squad registered in 2019. The club is open Monday to Friday during term time between the hours of 3.10pm to 6pm. They are open during the school holidays, Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Emma Barrow

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 manager and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors, and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to a number of 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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