

Inspection of S4A Group Ltd @ Overstone

Overstone School, Church Street, Wing, Leighton Buzzard LU7 0NY

Inspection date:

15 July 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

The knowledgeable and professional staff provide nurturing care and support for children at the club. Children arrive happily from school, full of excitement to start activities. Many children chose to attend the club because they enjoy taking part in the wide range of sporting and arts and craft activities. The provider demonstrates an exceptional attitude towards offering an inclusive provision, ensuring that children with special educational needs and/or disabilities have their needs met extremely well. Children talk about their enjoyment in creating imaginary worlds using construction bricks. During the inspection, children worked together to make a complicated structure, explaining that it was a dog day care centre that had room for cats and horses. Children are highly expressive and talk with confidence about their ideas. Children make choices about what they play with. There is a good balance between activities that adults lead and support and free play, where children can use their own ideas.

There is a calm and relaxed atmosphere at the club, but children follow a daily routine that helps them to know what to expect. Staff give children plenty of warning before any changes, so children have the opportunity to finish playing. Children enjoy sporting activities and healthy snacks. Staff give genuine praise and encouragement and this helps to promote children's positive mental and physical health. Children learn about each other's home lives and families and celebrate the things that make them unique and special, such as having family that live overseas.

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

- Children behave very well at the club. There are clear expectations for behaviour, which are familiar to children as they follow the same rules as school. Children understand that they need to be kind to each other and show they are caring and empathetic. For example, when children have minor accidents, others are quick to comfort them.
- Children of all ages play together well. They take turns and share resources and compliment each other on their creations during art and craft activities. When making windmills from paper cups, children share ideas and support and encourage each other. This shows their good ability to play together sociably.
- Staff do not give children instruction to help them to assess risks, such as during science activities. As a result, children do not understand why they should not lick their fingers after touching liquids they use in experiments. Although these are not necessarily harmful, children do not learn about good hygiene so they can begin to manage risks for themselves to keep safe and healthy.
- Children show that they are settled and confident. They enjoy taking part in a wide range of activities that sustain their attention and fire their imagination.

Children enjoy competitive games and sports and want to win. However, they are encouraging and supportive of each other, cheering as they play badminton and hit the shuttlecock back and forth to each other.

- Staff understand their responsibilities in keeping children safe at the club. They recognise signs that children might be at risk of harm and follow robust procedures to report any concerns to the club's designated person for safeguarding. The provider has a secure awareness of how to work effectively with local safeguarding partners.
- The provider implements a rigorous recruitment and induction plan for staff. This ensures that staff are suitable for their role and have the support and supervision they need. There is a comprehensive plan for staff to develop professionally and increase their knowledge and skills. This enhances their skills set and ensures that the club has staff who understand how to meet children's needs effectively. Staff are enthusiastic and say they enjoy their work.
- There are good relationships with parents, who get to find out exactly what their children will play and experience at the club. Staff ensure there is a smooth handover between school and the club and the club and parents. This provides children with good continuity throughout the day.
- Staff establish highly effective relationships with staff at the host school. They exchange regular information to enable staff to understand about children and their individual needs and circumstances.

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	2683045
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	10350703
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	5 to 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	S4A Group Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901819
Telephone number	07989467850
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

S4A Group Ltd @ Overstone registered in 2022 and operates from Overstone Combined School in Wing. The club employs three members of childcare staff. The club provides wraparound care from 7.30am to 8.35am and 3.15pm to 6pm Monday to Friday during term time. In school holidays, the club provides holiday club sessions from 8am until 5pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

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 spoke with children throughout the inspection.
- A joint observation was completed and discussed with the provider.
- During the inspection, the inspector held a meeting with the provider and staff. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- Parents shared their views through feedback with the club.

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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