

Inspection of Active Stars

Milton Mount Primary School, Grattons Drive, Crawley RH10 3AG

Inspection date:

8 January 2025

**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 arrive at the club with enthusiasm and receive a warm welcome from friendly staff. The session begins with a reminder of club rules and activities on offer. Children listen intently to the staff and recall rules, such as to walk in the corridors and be kind to your friends. This helps children feel safe and know what is expected of them. Throughout the session, children are respectful and behave extremely well. They enjoy engaging in meaningful conversations with staff and share recent experiences, such as family events and holidays. This helps children build positive relationships.

Staff put good procedures in place for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. For example, they adapt activities to meet the varying needs and age range of children who attend the setting. This ensures all children are given the same opportunities to develop skills and gain confidence. Staff provide a quiet space for children to relax and read books or play board games. To promote physical development, staff organise activities, such as football and dance, to encourage children to be active. This helps to support children's fitness and well-being.

During term time, the setting provides wraparound care for children who attend the school. The provider works effectively with outside agencies and uses government funding so children from other schools can attend during school holidays. This benefits the local community and provides opportunities for children to build new friendships.

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

- The provider completes robust recruitment checks to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. This includes obtaining references and completing suitability checks. Staff complete courses to support their ongoing professional development to increase their knowledge and skills.
- Staff promote healthy eating and encourage children to make healthy choices. For example, in the role-play area staff ask children to find healthy food to put on their plate. This opens discussions about their favourite foods as children excitedly look for items to fill their plate. This helps children learn about leading a healthy lifestyle.
- Staff provide opportunities for children to engage in role-play games with their friends, which instigates imaginative play. For example, staff support children to create a restaurant in the role-play area. Children enjoy using writing pads to take food orders and serve their friends. This helps children develop their social skills and imagination.

- Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour and encourage children of all ages to play together cooperatively. Older children are excellent role models and support younger children during activities. For example, they share rules set by staff for the football table, explaining that the first person to five goals wins and stays on the table. Children wait patiently for their turn and cheer when a goal is scored. This helps children develop their self-regulation skills.
- Children show resilience as they persevere at games and tasks. Staff provide support and encourage them to keep trying. For example, children build a model and staff challenge them to make it bigger. Children squeal with excitement as the model tips over and they quickly rebuild it. This helps to develop children's problem-solving skills and motivation to achieve goals.
- Throughout the session, children are keen to help and complete tasks. For example, children relish being chosen to hold doors open for their friends as the group moves around the school. Staff recognise that children enjoy having responsibilities. Through their evaluation of practice, staff plan to provide more opportunities for children to help and develop their independence skills. For example, they plan to encourage children to help serve items at snack time.
- Prior to children starting, staff gather information from parents, such as medical needs and dietary requirements, to keep children safe. During mealtimes, staff use this information to ensure children eat the correct foods to meet their dietary needs and respect their cultural beliefs.
- Mealtimes are a sociable occasion and children enjoy choosing from a range of snacks on offer. Staff praise children for having good manners and being polite. This helps to boost children's confidence and self-esteem.
- Parents provide positive comments and are very happy with the care the staff provide. For example, children enjoy attending the club and parents like the range of activities on offer each session. Staff communicate well with parents and effectively share information, this starts with an open day for parents to view the setting. Staff provide ongoing information through an app and newsletters to keep parents updated and informed of activities and events.

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	2770355
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10378429
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	90
Number of children on roll	217
Name of registered person	Active Stars Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	2770353
Telephone number	01293 307690
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Active Stars re-registered in January 2024. Active stars are located within the Milton Mount Primary School in Crawley, West Sussex. They are open from 7.30am to 9am and 3pm to 6pm weekdays during term time and 8am to 4pm weekdays during school holidays. The setting provides places for the government funded holiday activities and food programme (HAF). One member of staff holds a full and relevant early years childcare qualification to level 3. Other staff hold alternative qualifications, including qualified teacher status and paediatric first aid.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lisa Smith

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to children to find out about their time at the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about how they support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- The inspector spoke to several 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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