

Inspection of Whittington After School Club

New Whittington Primary School, Handley Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S43 2EP

Inspection date:

9 March 2023

**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 cheerfully arrive at the out-of-school club. They take off their bags and coats as they happily chat with their friends. Staff offer activities that are centred around children's interests, ideas, and suggestions. Children show that they feel safe and secure, as they confidently explore the activities that appeal to them. Children use their imagination. They play in the home corner, pretending to cook pizza. Children pretend to fly an aeroplane through the air. They smile and confidently tell visitors about their own experiences of going on an aeroplane.

Children squeal with delight as they run outside in the snow. Staff help children to make a snowman. Children excitedly search for sticks to use as the snowman's arms. Children tell staff that they have made an abominable snowman. Children have an enjoyable time at the out-of-school club. For example, they laugh as they lay in the snow, moving their arms and legs to make snow angels. Children feel a sense of achievement as staff praise them for their creations. Staff encourage children of all ages to play together. Older children are receptive to this and happily invite younger children to join in with their play.

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

- Partnership working with the host school is effective. Staff are inclusive and ensure that the individual needs of children are met. For example, they communicate regularly with school staff and attend meetings with other professionals. As a result, children receive a consistent approach from all staff. This supports children's emotional needs and overall well-being.
- Staff help children's growing independence. For example, during mealtimes they encourage children to butter their own crackers and toast. Older children pour their own drinks and staff provide encouragement and support for younger children to learn these skills safely.
- Staff are vigilant about children's individual health needs. For example, they provide a varied and nutritious menu, which caters for children's specific dietary requirements. Staff promote children's good health. For instance, they maintain up-to-date records about children's health. This helps staff to quickly recognise when children are displaying symptoms of illness and take prompt and appropriate action.
- Good hygiene practices are in place. For example, staff provide children with appropriate handwashing and drying facilities. Staff encourage children to implement robust hand hygiene at appropriate times throughout the session. This helps to prevent the spread of illnesses and infections.
- Children behave well. For example, when playing on the computer they follow the rules set by staff. Children are eager to help, for instance without prompting

they help staff to tidy the toys and activities away. Staff thank children for their assistance. This helps to build positive relationships and mutual respect.

- Children show great interest and concentration at the craft table. Staff provide empty sweet wrappers for children to use in their artwork. Children look at the different colours in awe. They skilfully use a range of tools, such as scissors and glue sticks, to create pictures and make bracelets.
- Staff support children's social skills. For example, they plan for all children to sit together during mealtimes. Children talk about their school day and events at home. They avidly discuss their current interest, for instance children explain the immune system and how the body reacts to infections.
- Parents comment that they are pleased with the care provided at the club. They say that children speak positively about what they have been doing and the friends they have played with. Parents feel that staff keep them well informed about how children have been at the club.
- The established staff team work well together. For example, they regularly share good practice and updates with one another. The manager and staff frequently meet to discuss any concerns and training needs. Staff have access to a host of online training. For example, some staff have recently used this to refresh their safeguarding knowledge. This helps staff to continue to promote the welfare of children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are confident in the steps to take in the event of an allegation against a member of staff. They know and understand the role of the local authority designated officer. Staff can recognise signs and symptoms of abuse and know how to report concerns about the welfare of children. Staff ensure that the premises are secure, to prevent unauthorised visitors and to prevent children leaving unsupervised. Staff who are responsible for preparing meals and snacks complete food hygiene training. Staff carry out risk assessments to ensure the safety of the premises and the environment. They quickly identify risks and take appropriate action to reduce them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY257111
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10264054
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	24
Number of children on roll	30
Name of registered person	Whittington After School Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP521317
Telephone number	07884 450150
Date of previous inspection	22 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

Whittington After School Club registered in 2004 and operates from school premises in New Whittington, Chesterfield. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club is open from 7.30am until 8.45am and 3pm until 5.30pm, Monday to Friday during term time. The club also opens during selected school holidays from 8.30am until 5.30pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Mel Walker

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 out-of-school club.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke to two parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector observed activities, both indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children.

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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