

The Terrapins Out of Hours Club



Swindon Village Primary School, Church Road, Swindon Village, CHELTENHAM,
Gloucestershire, GL51 9QP

Inspection date

18 March 2015

Previous inspection date

29 September 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff consider children's choices and suggestions as they plan a range of play activities inside. Consequently, children enjoy their time playing and exploring.
- Staff work effectively in partnership with the school to offer a continuity of care for the children, helping create seamless changeovers from school to the club and supporting their next stage in learning.
- Behaviour is good because staff are positive role models, and treat children with care and consideration. Consequently, children form friendships, share resources and play cooperatively. They benefit from the supportive environment provided.
- Children settle well at the club. Staff dedicate time to play with them and getting to know children when they first start. This helps children to build secure bonds with adults.
- The manager and her staff promote strong safeguarding procedures that enable children to play and learn in a safe environment.
- The manager supports the development of her staff as she encourages them to gain further qualifications, which have a positive impact on the quality of practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not make the best use of the outdoor area to promote children's play fully during the winter months. They do not always provide experiences and activities outdoors that promote all types of children's play.
- On occasion, the background noise distracts children from remaining fully focused on planned activities, to promote their levels of concentration even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- make the most of the outdoor area to enable children to choose from activities which extend all areas of play
- minimise the occasional background noise from the television and other distractions during planned activities, to allow children to always remain fully focused and develop their levels of concentration.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play, activities and staff interaction with children in all areas of the club including outside, and viewed the toys, resources and equipment available for children's use.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding practices, staff recruitment, staff training and professional development, and evaluation processes. She looked at some records for planning and observations.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Managers and senior staff have a good understanding of child development gained through their relevant qualifications. This helps them plan a range of exciting activities based on children's current abilities. Staff carry out observations of children's play throughout the sessions and help managers evaluate at the end of each day. They identify children's levels of interest and engagement with activities, and use this knowledge to plan future experiences. Consequently, children develop their own ideas as they enjoy achieving what they set out to do. For example, children created clay decorations using a variety of skills as they helped themselves to craft materials. However, at times some children are slightly distracted by the occasional background television noise and do not always fully focus on the task in hand. This sometimes interrupts their concentration and does not fully maximise valuable play opportunities. Children develop good communication and language skills because staff interact positively with them as they play. On arrival children gather together for snack, developing social skills as they confidently talk about their day. Staff and older children listen to younger children and value their conversations.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff set up the rooms in a way that allows children to choose from a good range of resources and equipment independently. Children enjoy healthy snacks and have plenty of opportunities to play outside where they develop physical skills. However, staff do not always set up a wide variety of outdoor play experiences on some winter days. This does not entice some more reluctant children to play outside on cold days, to fully promote healthy lifestyles. Staff promote children's emotional well-being successfully. Staff ensure that they get to know children well. Younger children have a designated special person from whom to seek comfort or support. Consequently, children are confident and self-motivated as they eagerly arrive, talk to their friends and take part in activities. Older children are supportive and caring towards the younger children. For example, they encourage younger children to join in a drawing game outside, supporting and praising them.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager and staff understand the requirements. Staff use secure arrival and departure procedures for children to keep children safe. Staff remind children to play safely and use risk assessments to check for hazards. Staff receive support and supervision from the manager, and attend training to develop their skills. Staff attended first aid training so they know how to deal with accidents quickly and effectively. Daily discussions with parents promote good continuity in children's experiences. The manager uses parental views and ongoing monitoring in her self-evaluation as she seeks to improve.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY347902
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	835202
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	71
Name of provider	Rebecca Mary Wilkes
Date of previous inspection	29 September 2011
Telephone number	07734 922870

The Terrapins Out of Hours Club registered in 2007. It operates in separate accommodation within the grounds of Swindon Village Primary School. The group is open five days a week before school and after school, during term times. This includes Monday to Thursday from 3.15pm to 6pm, Friday 3.15pm to 5.30pm, and daily from 7.40am to 8.40am. There are six members of staff who work with the children, three of whom have relevant childcare qualifications. The manager and the deputy manager both hold a childcare qualification at level 3.

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