

Inspection of Mighty Oaks @ Ashton Keynes

Ashton Keynes C of E School, 23 Gosditch, Ashton Keynes, SWINDON SN6 6NZ

Inspection date:

28 April 2022

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children are very settled and confident in their setting. They have secure relationships with familiar staff that help them to explore and experiment in their play. Children laugh with enthusiasm during activities. Staff engage well with the children, interacting with them effectively. They give children ideas for different play and encourage children to extend this further. For example, children use the tyres to jump in and out of. They move the tyres by dragging them and then rolling them onto the grass to extend their ideas. Children are highly sociable as they play and during daily routines, such as mealtimes. They share ideas while building with construction toys or making marks in the salt, kindly sharing resources with their peers.

Children have lots of opportunities to make their own decisions and choose what they like to do. For example, staff ask the children where they would like to eat snack, such as inside or outside. Children choose to build a den and eat the snack in the den together, forming good social relationships. Children behave well. They learn to share with each other. They show compassion and care towards their younger friends. Staff adapt play to make sure all children are included. Children notice their friends observing their play and invite them in to experience the fun that they are having.

During the first COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, the setting closed, however, parents say staff kept in regular contact to inform them about changes to operating procedures and hygiene arrangements.

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

- Staff value children's opinions in the club. They encourage them to talk about the things they would like to do and make choices about the activities on offer. They gather detailed information from parents when children first attend and regularly check in with children to ensure they feel secure. Children form good relationships with staff and show that they feel happy and safe here.
- Staff promote children's physical well-being very well. They have access to plenty of outdoor space to run, climb, explore, throw, kick and roll. They use the space well to extend their movements, using equipment to challenge their existing skills. Staff encourage all children to play outside to gain fresh air and to increase their physical health. Children have access to hot, healthy foods, which support their understanding of healthy eating. Children have access to fresh drinking water at all times to help them stay hydrated.
- Partnerships with parents and teachers in the school are strong. Staff are extremely effective communicators and meet the needs of the children very well.

Staff who work in both the school and club share experiences and knowledge of the children to build strong continuity.

- Staff form good partnerships with the host school. Staff share information with the children's reception class teachers to support their learning in school. For example, they complement topics and plan fun activities that build on children's mathematical and literacy skills. Children use sticks and create patterns and marks as they learn to hold the pencil correctly to develop their early writing skills. They talk about the noises different materials make in the discovery tray as they develop a deeper understanding of familiar stories to extend their learning from school.
- The manager continually monitors and reflects on practice with staff to identify improvements and to look at ways to develop the club. Staff qualifications and the continued mentoring from the manager have a very positive impact on practice.
- Staff are positive role models and they value the uniqueness of every child as an individual. They are caring and patient. Staff work very well as a team. They take a genuine interest in what children do and say, striving to provide the best possible experiences for them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff understand their responsibilities to keep children safe from harm. The manager provides opportunities for them to update and refresh their knowledge of new child protection procedures and broader safeguarding issues, such as radicalisation. The manager works closely in partnership with the headteacher in the school to promote effective information sharing and consistency. Staff regularly talk to children about keeping themselves safe. For example, children learn how to climb safely on the outdoor equipment. Staff know which children they expect in the club and act swiftly to check where older children are, if they do not arrive promptly from their class, to ensure their welfare.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423506
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	10233782
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	24
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	Acorns Nursery School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP527779
Telephone number	01285 655505
Date of previous inspection	12 September 2016

Information about this early years setting

Mighty Oaks @ Ashton Keynes registered in 2011. It operates from Ashton Keynes Primary School. The club is open each weekday during term time between 3.15pm and 6pm. The club employs three members of staff, two of whom hold a relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 and 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tracey Cook

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 the staff's interactions with the children indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector held discussions with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the club's documents. This included evidence of staff suitability and training.
- The inspector and the manager discussed how the provision is organised and the play environment.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through feedback forms available on the day.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022