

Inspection date	20 October 2015
Previous inspection date	12 July 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff get to know the children well and teamwork is good. Staff are experienced and work well together in meeting children's care needs and ensuring they provide a range of good activities that enhance their overall play experiences.
- Partnerships with parents and the host school are effective. The manager and staff use effective systems for sharing key information. The provision runs smoothly, enabling staff to provide continuity of care.
- The manager and all staff understand how to keep children safe. They use effective systems to review and minimise risks in the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The leadership team effectively monitors and reflects the overall effectiveness of the setting. This enables it to identify areas to develop, including a children's suggestion box.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although staff plan activities and the environment well overall, children are not always involved in the planning and the environment is not always arranged in the best possible way to enhance children's play experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve staff's knowledge and skills in planning activities and the environment in response to children's changing needs and interests.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the premises with the manager
- The inspector observed play activities in the main play area and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at samples of children's records and staff vetting information, and at policies and procedures, including those for safeguarding and child protection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector took account of the views of children and parents through discussions and written comments provided to the club.

Inspector

Lisa Paisley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The manager and the registered providers have a good understanding of the statutory framework and legal duties to make sure children are protected. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a good knowledge of how to keep children safe and protected from harm. There are thorough recruitment procedures. Most staff hold relevant childcare qualifications and they update their knowledge through regular training, including for first aid and safeguarding. The manager supports all the staff in their roles. There are ongoing discussions and regular team meetings to maintain good communication and any concerns are dealt with quickly. This promotes the smooth running of the club and ensures children's needs are well met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy their time at this welcoming club. They engage in a range of fun and exciting activities, including role play, football, creative activities and talent show contests. Staff enhance children's learning well. They engage with children in their play, help them problem solve, explore ideas, question children and assist in activities, such as the self-portrait activity. This means that children actively engage in their play happily together. All children are included in activities. Staff are attentive to the individual needs of all children and value their opinions. Children demonstrate high levels of self-esteem and confidence.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The staff team follows good settling-in procedures and older children help younger ones to settle in. Children are emotionally secure and develop a sense of belonging quickly. They behave well and understand what is expected of them. Staff promote children's personal skills well. For example, they encourage children to up set up for snack time. This provides a good opportunity for children to talk to each other, discuss school life and any school trips that they have been on. Children develop an understanding of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. They benefit from being physically active and enjoy fresh air and regular exercise as they access a well-resourced outdoor environment. Staff are good role models and treat each other with respect. Their example helps promote tolerance and understanding in the club and encourages children to learn about similarities and differences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY285787
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	833669
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	Sharon Williams and Kayley Harrington Partnership
Date of previous inspection	12 July 2011
Telephone number	07903 708764

Abacus out-of-school club (Squirrels) registered in 2004. It is privately owned and one of eight provisions run by Abacus. The club is located in Gidea Park, in the London Borough of Havering. The provider employs five members of childcare staff; of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications. The club opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 3.10pm until 6pm.

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