

The Dell @ Abel Smith

Abel Smith J M I School, Churchfields, HERTFORD, SG13 8AE



Inspection date	16 November 2015
Previous inspection date	21 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The staff provide a highly stimulating environment with a wide range of activities. This helps all children engage in effective play. Children display high levels of concentration. The staff consistently reflect on the environment and the activities they offer to ensure they continue to interest and challenge all children.
- Children recognise that their views are respected within the club and they have a responsibility to be kind to each other. The staff help them to understand tolerance and to have respect for others.
- Children are highly responsible, independent and they love to help. They are involved in the preparation of the tables and the food for tea. They volunteer to wash up and enjoy social conversations with their friends and staff.
- Disabled children and those with special educational needs are very skilfully supported. Staff work closely with parents and class teachers to ensure all children's needs are fully met.
- Exceptionally strong partnerships are in place between the parents and staff. Parents speak very highly of the excellent quality of care the staff provide. They feel their children are loved and nurtured.
- The manager provides inspirational leadership for the dedicated and highly effective staff. They work exceptionally well as a team and there is a shared commitment to improve the quality of the provision to the highest standard.
- Systems for monitoring staff performance and supervision are thorough and successfully promote continuous professional development. Staff are very well qualified, knowledgeable and confident in addressing children's individual needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on the already excellent partnerships with parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of activities, both indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's enjoyment.
- The inspector discussed the children's involvement in the adult-planned activity with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the club's manager. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the club's self-evaluation, evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club and the safeguarding policy and procedure.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The manager and staff are very passionate about their work at the club and strive for excellence. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Robust policies and procedures are consistently applied by staff to ensure that children are very well protected. Rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures help ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. The manager and staff engage in discussions and highly value feedback from parents and children. They have identified that receiving formal feedback from parents, on a more regular basis, would be even more beneficial to their practice. The manager and staff successfully evaluate all aspects of the club and strive to make positive changes. For example, they have made successful changes to the environment and have further plans to develop the upstairs room. Monthly development plans also contribute to successful continuous improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff provide a very well-organised and well-planned environment where children have fun and play freely. Challenging activities are planned around children's ideas and interests. Children are highly motivated and eager to engage. Staff take notice of what topics are being covered in the school, such as focusing on anti-bullying campaigns. Staff are skilled in ensuring these outstanding activities meet the needs of all the children attending. They provide story books to help the younger children talk about their feelings. The older children read leaflets and posters to gain ideas for making their own anti-bullying resources. These activities are highly successful in complementing children's learning at school. Children's language and communication skills are very well promoted through group discussions, role play and meaningful dialogue with the staff. Individual scrapbooks highlight the younger children's achievements at the club. These are regularly shared with parents and class teachers. Staff help children to learn about different festivals and cultural events to support their knowledge of different people and communities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children flourish in this safe, caring environment. They thoroughly enjoy their time at the club and participate in a wide range of exciting activities. Children enjoy healthy meals and are physically active on a daily basis. They benefit from using the school playground. They climb on the climbing frame, play football and use scooters. These activities help support their physical and social skills very well. Children's behaviour is excellent. Staff use praise effectively to reinforce positive behaviour and good manners. Children are involved in developing the club rules and they understand what is expected of them. They are consistently polite and considerate towards each other. Older children look after the younger children. For example, they help them to fasten their shoes. Staff support children to make decisions. Children are encouraged to write down on a board what activities they would like out the next day. The staff ensure these are incorporated into their daily plans.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423158
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	852387
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 11
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	111
Name of provider	The Dell Out of School Club Committee
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2011
Telephone number	07432120678

The Dell @ Abel Smith was registered in 2011. The club employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, three staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. One member of staff holds an early years degree. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 9am and 3pm until 6pm. The club supports disabled children and those with special educational needs.

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