

Elmridge Activities Centre

Elmridge Primary School, Wilton Drive, Hale Barns, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 0JF



Inspection date

17 November 2015

Previous inspection date

4 April 2012

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 provide a wide range of exciting play opportunities, both inside and outdoors, that children enjoy. Children are highly motivated and arrive at the club happy and eager to join in.
- Children make many choices about what they want to do. They thoroughly enjoy being active and participate in many interactive games and activities. Staff are positive role models who teach children how to play cooperatively, share and take turns. Children's behaviour is excellent.
- The manager and staff are qualified and experienced. They use their knowledge and skills to provide children with entertaining play experiences. Children particularly enjoy being involved in the planning and performing of talent shows.
- Staff are caring and welcoming. Younger children have support from their key person. Children develop secure attachments with staff and each other and settle well. This supports their emotional well-being. Children are independent, confident and self-assured in the friendly club environment.
- The manager and staff work well together. They have high expectations and are passionate about their roles. The manager gathers suggestions from staff, children and parents and includes this feedback in the self-evaluation process. This demonstrates a strong desire to continue to raise the quality of the service.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always gather detailed information from school about children's abilities and achievements to fully complement the activities in the club.
- Staff do not consistently discuss information with parents about children's current interests to provide a more consistent approach to meet their individual needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the level of information obtained from school, in order to complement children's individual abilities and achievements
- explore further ways of sharing information with parents so that current details about children's individual interests are consistently shared.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the club, observed play and learning opportunities for children and spoke to the manager, staff and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector completed an evaluation of teaching with the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as, self-evaluation, policies and procedures and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of a small selection of parents through discussion and written feedback provided prior to inspection.

Inspector

Layla Louise Clarke

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The provider and the manager implement clear policies and procedures, which support the smooth running of the club. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children thrive in a safe and secure environment. Recruitment procedures are robust. This helps to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Staff attend safeguarding training and have a good understanding of child protection procedures. This contributes to children's safety and welfare. The manager supports the staff team well and staff receive one-to-one support from the manager. Staff have individual plans to identify areas of strong practice or areas for further professional development. Staff are encouraged to develop their practice and performance and have regular opportunities to attend training. This helps them to provide good quality experiences for children of all ages and abilities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff place a strong emphasis on encouraging children's imaginative skills. Staff provide a wide variety of creative experiences and role-play opportunities to help support children's creativity. Children design pictures using paint, glitter and pastel crayons. They excitedly explore in sand with different equipment and shells. Staff skilfully adapt their questioning techniques to support children's speaking and listening skills. They engage older and younger children in interesting conversation. Older children practise writing. Staff help children to complete homework in the designated area, which is equipped with a variety of pens, pencils and paper. Staff support younger children to develop early writing skills by planning fun activities. Younger children practise strengthening their finger muscles by placing coloured beads into a tray. Children have access to a range of equipment and experiences to promote their understanding of technology. Children eagerly play computer games and learn how to use a variety of battery operated toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from good quality outdoor play opportunities. This supports their physical health and well-being. Children develop good social skills in readiness for their next stages in learning. Children learn to treat others respectfully. They play happily together with bats and balls, as staff offer praise and encouragement. Children invite staff to join in with their play and they thoroughly enjoy playing with children. Staff actively participate in the children's talent show by juggling with balls. Staff and children play table-top games together. Staff role model positive hygiene practices. They explain the importance of healthy foods, as children help themselves to various snacks, fresh fruit and vegetables. This supports children's awareness of healthy lifestyles and contributes towards their independence and self-help skills. Staff place great emphasis on developing children's awareness of similarities and differences between themselves and others. They use different activities and toys to promote children's awareness of diversity. Staff take children on outings in the local community. This contributes to children developing an understanding of the wider world. Staff are sensitive to children's needs. They provide children with cosy areas for rest and relaxation after their day at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360640
Local authority	Trafford
Inspection number	873589
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 11
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	29
Name of provider	Jennifer Isobel Salmon
Date of previous inspection	4 April 2012
Telephone number	0161 980 4941

Elmridge Activities Centre was registered in 2007. The club is open each weekday during term time, from 8am to 9am and from 3.15pm to 6pm. During school holidays the club is open from 8am to 6pm. There are four members of staff. Of these, two members of staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 and two members of staff hold appropriate qualifications at level 2.

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