

Class Of Their Own @ Balfour



Balfour Infants School, Balfour Road, Brighton, BN1 6NE

Inspection date	13 January 2017
Previous inspection date	12 February 2013

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

- An enthusiastic management team provides strong leadership to the staff and supervisor. It regularly visits the club to monitor the quality of care and provide ongoing support and guidance. There are effective staff recruitment procedures. For example, checks are made to see that staff are fit and suitable for their role.
- Staff interact well with the children and take account of their interests when planning a wide range of fun and imaginative activities.
- Staff are particularly sensitive to the care needs of the youngest children. For example, they know that when they are just settling in to reception class they may need more support and rest.
- Children behave well and staff manage their behaviour consistently and appropriately. Children of all ages share the space harmoniously and develop good social skills and show consideration for each other.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff miss opportunities to help children extend on what they learn in school, to enhance their understanding even further and reinforce their knowledge.
- Children are collected at different times throughout the session and there is no clear arrangement to help them build on their independence skills and remember to take home items they have made or brought in from school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the partnerships with staff at the schools children attend even further and share more information to complement children's development and interests
- review the home-time procedure, especially for those children who prefer playing outside, to help build on their independence and encourage them to take home and share what they do at the club.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the staff and children during activities, both inside and outside.
- The inspector spoke to managers, staff, children and parents, and took account of their views.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the club supervisor.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including children's records, and self-evaluation and staff suitability checks.

Inspector

Jill Steer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The new club supervisor has developed a united staff team who work well together. The club is part of a local chain and the experienced management team provides the supervisor with regular support. This management team provide training for staff in all their clubs to continuously develop their skills and knowledge. For example, each year all staff have a full day of training that includes updating their knowledge, such as on how to be an inclusive setting and resolve conflict. Staff consistently use the techniques they learn to effectively manage children's behaviour. The club staff generally work well with the school to share necessary information about the children's care and welfare. Safeguarding is effective. Staff have up-to-date knowledge of the club policies and procedures, such as how to follow-up any child protection concerns and provide a safe environment. Staff evaluate their practice and their club annually. For example, they each contribute their views and ideas, and ask for parents' views on questionnaires. In addition, they also ask children to vote for what they want available at the club by placing a ball in a box to represent their choice. Staff identify ways to improve the club for children, such as providing a resources catalogue so they can see what is available.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children and record their play and activities using photographs. Children frequently look through their own record book and remember what they have done. They enjoy sharing them with their parents to show how busy they have been. Children focus well and enjoy experimenting with new ideas. For example, children spent a long time blowing different coloured feathers out of the end of straws. They tried to predict how high or far each feather would go and if they would float straight back down or go round and round. Parents know what activities are planned for the children each week. For example, they receive an email in advance to keep them informed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have good relationships with all staff but are each linked to one in particular to help develop a trusting relationship with them. Some staff work in the school, so are familiar to the children which reassures them and they act as the main link with home. Children enjoy playing outside, for example, bouncing balls on bats with staff or climbing the apparatus as part of leading healthy lifestyles. Staff support children's physical well-being and join in their active play. Staff give sensible advice that helps keep children safe and assess risks for themselves, such as when the apparatus is too icy to use. Children are confident. They respond well to the praise and encouragement staff give and develop strong self-esteem.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY452600
Local authority	Brighton & Hove
Inspection number	1062982
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	19
Name of registered person	Class Of Their Own Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906446
Date of previous inspection	12 February 2013
Telephone number	01273 733 337

Class of Their Own @ Balfour registered in 2012. It operates from a hall in Balfour Primary School in Brighton, East Sussex. The club is open each weekday from 3.15pm to 6pm during term time. There are six members of staff and, of these, two hold appropriate childcare qualifications. One member of staff is qualified to degree level and one to level 2.

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