

Explorers Link Club (St Vincents)



St Vincents Catholic Primary School, Finlay Avenue, Warrington, Cheshire, WA5 2PN

Inspection date	27 April 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the vibrant club. They demonstrate a clear sense of belonging and feel valued. Elected members of the children's council actively encourage other children of all ages to share their views, ideas and opinions.
- Staff take time to listen and play with children. They provide an excellent range of activities and respond enthusiastically to children's emerging interests or new ideas.
- Relationships are strong. Parents and children quickly establish high levels of trust in the caring and enthusiastic staff team. Parents are encouraged to share information which helps staff to fully understand children's needs.
- Children behave well. The club council have embraced their role and lead regular sessions that encourage other children to reflect on and review the rules of the club.
- Team challenges help children learn to work together and help one another.
- Children are encouraged to make healthy choices about what they eat.
- Staff, led by the experienced manager, regularly and effectively evaluate the quality of the provision. They demonstrate a strong commitment to sustaining good-quality care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The provider does not keep a record of all aspects of the vetting processes that have been completed to check staff's suitability. This breach of legal requirement does not have a significant impact on children's welfare.
- Staff do not always provide the very best opportunities to help children develop the highest levels of independence.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

Due Date

- keep a record of the full range of vetting processes that have been completed to evidence the suitability of staff. 14/05/2018

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

- provide further opportunities for children to develop their independence and manage age-appropriate tasks.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and assessed the impact on children's enjoyment and development.
- The inspector met with the manager and spoke to staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and discussed the provider's self-evaluation and plans for improvement.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.

Inspector

Vickie Halliwell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff are aware of the indicators of abuse and know the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child in their care. All staff have recently completed training to ensure they have an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of wider child protection issues and current government guidance. The manager implements appropriate vetting procedures. This includes ensuring all staff complete a criminal record check before they start to work with children. However, the manager does not keep a record of any further checks she undertakes, for example, references she has obtained. The very experienced and well-qualified manager continuously reviews staff's practice. Staff benefit from regular monitoring and one-to-one meetings to support their professional development. Risk assessments are regularly reviewed and all potential hazards are minimised to ensure children can move and play safely. Well-organised collection procedures help to keep children safe as they are escorted to and from their respective classroom.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy a wide range of interesting and challenging experiences that effectively complements their time in school. Close partnership working with teachers in the school, means staff are very well informed about what children are learning during the school day. Staff make excellent use of this information to further extend children's experiences. For example, after learning about St George, children enjoy a host of creative activities and have the opportunity to talk about what they have learnt. Children become fully absorbed as they use intricate pieces to decorate princess puppets. Delighted with their creations children proudly show their puppets to those around them. Supported by enthusiastic staff, children confidently organise an impromptu puppet show. Children happily explore the familiar surroundings and make meaningful choices about what they play with. They select their own games and invite others to join them as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Good relationships with their key person and the wider staff team help children to form secure attachments. This provides a strong foundation for their emotional well-being. Children move easily and happily between their school and the club. Staff listen to children with interest and ask open-ended questions that encourage lively discussions. Staff are sensitive to children's individual care needs. Children are confident and their personal development is exceptionally well promoted. Children are motivated by the range of activities provided. Staff effectively support children to develop and value the attitudes they need to be good learners in school and to contribute positively to wider society.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY501732
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	1052346
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 - 11
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	60
Name of registered person	Linda Anne Lowe
Registered person unique reference number	RP905620
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01925 726544

Explorers Link Club (St Vincents) registered in 2016. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club provides sessions from 7.45am to 8.45am and from 3pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, during term times.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

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