

Inspection date	10 October 2018
Previous inspection date	11 January 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Children are happy and relaxed and enjoy their time at the club. They form secure, trusting and respectful relationships with staff. Staff are quick to offer children help and praise for their achievements. They gently guide them to respect their peers and maintain a good level of behaviour.
- Staff work with parents to help children to settle and they build good relationships with children and their families. They link closely with the school and other professionals involved with children to establish good consistency and continuity in children's care and learning.
- Staff demonstrate a good understanding of how children learn. They observe children to ensure that they know and can support their individual needs, taking notice of their interests and preferences. They plan a variety of stimulating activities that engages children of all ages and, overall, help them to develop their skills.
- Self-evaluation is effective. The manager works closely with staff and members of the club's committee to identify ways to develop the provision further. They gain the views of children and parents to help drive continuous improvements in children's care and play experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, staff do not fully support children's thinking and problem-solving skills.
- On occasions, staff do not focus upon all of the possible opportunities within planned activities, to develop children's skills even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's thinking skills further and make the most of every opportunity to encourage them to explore solving problems
- focus more closely on all of the available opportunities within activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the play rooms and the outside learning environment, and conducted a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and committee members of the provision. She spoke to staff and children throughout the inspection when appropriate.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment and planning documentation, the setting's risk assessment and safety records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of staff working within the setting, the provider's evidence of self-evaluation and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account the views of parents spoken to on the day and by reading a number of comments on questionnaires given to the manager.

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have a good understanding of what to do if they are concerned about a child in their care. They implement the club's clear procedures and risk assessments effectively, to help keep children safe. The manager and committee ensure vetting procedures for staff and all committee members are thorough. They lead effective systems for recruiting, inducting and supervising staff. They are aware of the importance of ensuring that the staff team remains knowledgeable and skilled. They support staff to attend regular training and ongoing professional development opportunities, such as to undertake further relevant childcare qualifications. Parents speak highly of the service provided. They praise the good communication from staff, the varied activities and wonderful opportunities for children's play outdoors.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff observe children and follow their interests and ideas well, helping them to develop and build on these. For example, children enjoy collecting leaves from the woodland area within the school grounds. Staff encourage children to compare the sizes of leaves they find and explore using these to make designs and pictures. Staff suggest possible techniques and help younger children achieve their desired effects, such as using crayons effectively to rub the shape of the leaves onto paper. They encourage children to explore in their own chosen way and discuss their plans. Young children talk about changes and adaptations, for instance, as they stick the leaves onto their pictures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage children to be independent and develop a sense of responsibility. For example, children take care of their personal belongings and tidy away resources. They help themselves to food and clear away their things when they have finished. Staff have developed the club's mealtime routines since the last inspection and foster children's social opportunities well. For example, young children have their meal first. They enjoy sitting with their friends and staff and chat happily about their day at school. They go off to relax or play outside. Older children then arrive and sit with their own friends to enjoy their meal. Children have good opportunities to be physically active in the different areas within the school grounds. They are engaged, busy and make good use of the environment. Staff facilitate children's exploration and play well, offering appropriate resources or ideas to help children's success and safety as they explore. For example, children take turns in fun group games, build dens within the trees and play football or imaginative games with their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344319
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	10056948
Type of provision	Out-of-school day care
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Age range of children	4 - 11
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	95
Name of registered person	Sparks Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP522295
Date of previous inspection	11 January 2017
Telephone number	01749 678019

Sparks registered in 2007. The club employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate qualifications ranging from level 3 to 6, including one with qualified teacher status. The club opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 8.50am then from 3pm until 6pm, during term time only. It operates sessions in the school holidays every weekday from 8am until 6pm.

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