

Vicarage Park After School Club



The Bungalow, Vicarage Park School, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 5BP

Inspection date	14 November 2018
Previous inspection date	1 December 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is outstanding

- Since the last inspection, the management and staff have continued to improve their exceptional service and superb practice. They have made significant changes to the premises, indoors and outside, to provide children with a homely, highly stimulating, inviting and nurturing after-school provision. Children are at the forefront of everything the staff do. Achievements are celebrated and exceptional learning opportunities are provided.
- Leadership is inspirational. The manager works closely with all the staff, who have high expectations and high levels of commitment and enthusiasm. They successfully promote a culture of self-reflection, partnership and teamwork that supports children's individual needs exceptionally well. The manager values all staff's contributions and successfully promotes their continued professional development.
- Children thrive in this high-quality, safe and secure after-school club. They are tremendously enthusiastic, confident and have a clear sense of belonging. Children are exceptionally well behaved. Staff actively encourage children to take responsibility for themselves and show consideration for others. They are extremely independent and make decisions in all that they do.
- Partnerships with the host school and parents are exemplary. The links forged with the school enable staff to support children's well-being effectively and to complement children's learning exceptionally well. Parents are highly complimentary about the service the club provides. Staff gather a wealth of information from parents, teachers and the children themselves to ensure individual needs are met.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement the action plans in place to provide even more inspiring and innovative opportunities to build on children's knowledge and interest in the natural world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the club manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the club manager and nominated person. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and from the statements provided.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The registered provider has informed Ofsted of all persons associated with the club and their suitability is confirmed. Staff demonstrate a firm understanding of the processes to follow should they have any concerns regarding a child's welfare. They receive regular child protection training, keep their knowledge up to date and sensitively discuss 'what if' situations at staff meetings. The collection and handover procedures ensure the safety of children at all times. Staff deploy themselves extremely well and diligently check all areas and equipment before children access them. The manager values staff's contributions and promotes their continuing professional development. She makes excellent use of staff supervision, discussions and meetings to ensure high-quality experiences for children. The manager and staff are forward thinking. They constantly reflect on their practice to identify where additional enhancements can be made. For example, they would like to create even more opportunities for children to develop further their interest in the natural world. Staff's knowledge of the children, excellent relationships with parents and the highly effective partnership with the school have an exceptionally positive impact on children's learning, safety and well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy being at the club and are constantly engaged in innovative activities. For example, they enthusiastically talk about the extraordinary displays they have created about inspirational women and well-known artists. The stimulating range of resources on offer complements the learning that takes place in school. The environment has been thoughtfully laid out to inspire children and provide areas to relax, read books or complete homework. Staff recognise that the work children create is valued and it is proudly displayed around the room. Staff interact with children exceptionally well. They allow children time to explore independently and invite them to join in planned activities. For example, children enjoy being creative and competently decorate cakes for a nationwide fundraising event. Staff are aware of children's capabilities. They provide experiences that challenge and motivate them, complementing what children learn at school and need to know next.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive emotionally at the club and their behaviour is exemplary. They form exceptionally close and secure relationships with staff and other children. Older children support younger ones and friendships flourish. Children confidently follow routines and settle in with ease. They understand the importance of following good hygiene practices and staff are thoughtful and considerate when talking to them about diverse dietary needs. Staff nurture children's emotional development. They support younger children to build on their existing sharing and turn-taking skills. The exceptional outdoor environment successfully supports children's physical development. Children enthusiastically take part in energetic outdoor games. For example, they enjoy playing hide-and-seek games while using torches and flashing objects.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY313364
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	10079577
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	3 - 11
Total number of places	25
Number of children on roll	69
Name of registered person	Vicarage Park After School Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP907457
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2016
Telephone number	01539 738269

Vicarage Park After School Club registered in 2005 and is managed by a voluntary committee. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and above. The manager is a qualified teacher. The club opens Monday to Friday from 3.15pm to 6pm and, on demand, from 8.30am to 5.30pm during school holidays.

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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