

Inspection of Acorn ASC & Play Scheme

Ackroyd Community Centre, Ackroyd Road, LONDON SE23 1DL

Inspection date: 3 October 2019

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Leaders and managers have worked well with professionals from the local authority to improve their service. They have successfully met all the actions from the last inspection by providing ongoing training and support for staff. Children enjoy their time at this friendly and welcoming out-of-school club. They behave well during meals and play, both after school and on outings during the school holidays. Older children show care and consideration for younger ones and happily share and involve others in their games. Staff are highly attentive to meeting children's needs. Adults have good knowledge of their key children and plan activities based on their interests. Staff provide a good range of games and craft activities which children freely choose and enjoy. Children have the opportunity to be involved in decision-making about the activities and resources offered. They told the inspector that they really like the club because it has 'so much space and so many toys'. All children are motivated and concentrate well on activities. They enjoy the company of adults and say, 'They are always there to help us'. This means that children are learning through their play and positive interactions with staff.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Partnerships with parents and other settings are good. Parents spoken with during the inspection said that they are kept informed about the club's policies and activities. Parents are encouraged to share information about their children's well-being. Staff communicate successfully with the schools from which they collect children, to ensure all children's needs are met.
- The atmosphere in the club is positive and children respond well to familiar routines, games and activities. Children who are new to the club receive effective support from their key person. This helps children to form friendships and feel happy and secure.
- Children are provided with varied and nourishing cooked meals every day. Very good attention is given to meeting the needs of children who have specific dietary requirements or food intolerances. This ensures children are kept safe and healthy.
- Staff are qualified and experienced. They benefit from training opportunities, team meetings and supervision where they are able to discuss key issues.
- Safety is given priority. The premises are safe and secure. Outings are risk assessed and children are taught to behave with consideration for others when using public transport.
- The programme of activities, both for the after-school and holiday club, is carefully considered to take account of children's interests. This means they really enjoy time spent in the club with their friends.
- The club promotes inclusive values and offers care for children of all abilities.

The manager sets aside time to have meetings with parents, to offer guidance when children may need support.

- The provider and manager reflect on the provision to identify and build on good practice. The provider actively seeks the views of parents and children, then uses the resulting information to plan improvements.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and managers have engaged well with their local authority adviser to improve the approach to safeguarding. They have ensured that all committee members and staff have appropriate suitability checks in place. The setting requires staff to complete safeguarding training and leaders provide advice and guidance to ensure all staff know how to act on concerns. Safeguarding policies and procedures are shared with parents. This ensures that all adults have a good understanding of any possible signs of abuse, including symptoms of extreme views or behaviours. Children are kept safe through good procedures for risk assessment and fire safety.

Setting details

Unique reference number	129003
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	10107698
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children	4 to 11
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	89
Name of registered person	Acorn ASC & Holiday Playscheme Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523950
Telephone number	020 8291 3181
Date of previous inspection	16 April 2019

Information about this early years setting

Acorn ASC & Play Scheme registered in 1995 and is located in Forest Hill, in the London Borough of Lewisham. The club opens for breakfast from 7.30am to 9am and after school from 3.30pm until 6pm, Monday to Friday, during term time. There is also a holiday playscheme, which usually runs from 8am until 6pm. The club has close links with Stillness, William of York and Dalmain schools. There are eight members of staff. The manager holds a level 5 qualification and seven staff hold qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Debbie Davey

Inspection activities

- The manager and the inspector viewed all areas of the setting and discussed how the club's activities are organised.
- During the tour, the manager explained emergency evacuation procedures and how she keeps children safe in the setting.
- A meeting was held with the manager and the designated safeguarding officer to discuss improvements since the last inspection.
- Time was spent speaking with children during the inspection to find out what they like about the club.
- The inspector spoke with staff to find out their understanding of safeguarding and other policies.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including evidence of staff and committee member suitability checks.
- The inspector observed children having their meal, playing and interacting with staff indoors and in the garden.
- Discussions were held with parents and their views were taken into account.

We carried out this inspection 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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