

The Afterschool Club Ltd



Mill End & District Community Association, Church Lane, Mill End,
Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 8HD

Inspection date	8 October 2018
Previous inspection date	23 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 well settled and confident. An effective key-person system supports the youngest children to develop strong relationships with the staff. Children are confident in asking adults for help when they need it.
- The experienced staff team receives good support from the manager. She ensures that staff keep their professional knowledge up to date and that they participate in regular training to ensure that they keep children safe.
- Children have a wide range of activities in which to participate. Older children play with the younger ones and act as positive role models for them.
- Children use their imaginations well. They enjoy playing with the staff, who support them effectively to develop their ideas. For example, staff skilfully ask children a range of questions that encourages them to think in more depth about the games that they are playing and the artwork that they create.
- Parents are complimentary about the service offered. They feel well informed about their child's day and comment on how much their children enjoy attending.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always offer children enough opportunities to develop their independence during mealtimes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children to become even more independent at mealtimes and do things that they are capable of doing themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector was given a tour of the areas of the premises used by the club and assessed the suitability of these areas.
- The inspector and manager observed a planned activity, and discussed the quality of the teaching and the impact it has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and looked at a range of documentation, including policies and children's learning records.
- The inspector spoke to children and staff at suitable times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held conversations with parents and took their views into consideration.

Inspector

Jennifer Hardy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Staff have a strong understanding of how to report concerns regarding children's welfare. The manager supports their knowledge of this further, such as through the safeguarding folders that she supplies to each member of staff. Children are collected from school by familiar staff. The manager ensures that this is consistent where possible, so that they form professional relationships with the school staff. Staff share relevant information to support children's continuity of care, and they pass messages on to parents from the school. Staff focus on keeping children safe. They keep the premises secure and ensure that people who enter the area used by the club are known to them. Staff keep accurate records of children's learning and development. These support them to provide interesting and motivating activities for the children. The manager develops the service further and takes on board feedback well. For instance, she seeks parents' opinions by giving them regular questionnaires to complete.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are happy and settle quickly into activities. The resources are in good working order and children choose things with which they enjoy playing. For instance, younger children keenly use the toy cars and parking garage as they play together. Staff link the children's learning to their interests and thoughtfully support children to extend their conversations further, such as by asking questions to encourage them to think about why the squirrels bury acorns in the ground. Children talk enthusiastically about the work they create and staff praise them for their creations. Staff encourage older children to develop their problem-solving skills further, for example, discussing problems they encounter with their pictures and supporting them to find appropriate solutions. Children have opportunities to explore technology, for instance, by playing games on the computers. They have cosy spaces to relax and they enjoy looking at books quietly.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The club has a very friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Staff greet children kindly as they arrive and ask them about their day with interest. Children behave positively and follow the rules of the club well. They are familiar with the routine of the session and focus well on the activities they choose, indoors and outdoors. Children enjoy freshly prepared snacks, such as pasta and tomato sauce, along with a range of fresh fruit. Staff are thoughtful and interact sensitively with children who need additional support. Staff build on children's existing sharing and turn-taking skills to ensure that children interact positively together. For instance, they give children regular opportunities as they play to swap the bicycles and scooters they use outdoors, so that everyone gets a turn. Staff recognise children's need to relax and play after a busy day at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY356000
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10063595
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 - 10
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	87
Name of registered person	The Afterschool Club Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP905860
Date of previous inspection	23 November 2015
Telephone number	07958666621

The Afterschool Club Ltd registered in 2007. It is one of three provisions operated by the provider. The club employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.15am to 9am and from 3.15pm to 6pm.

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