

Acorn After School Club

The Ridings, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, TW16 6NX



Inspection date

11 March 2015

Previous inspection date

23 June 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff provide a welcoming environment that children enjoy coming to at the end of the school day.
- Staff make good use of the space available at the club. They create some separate areas, such as the role-play and homework rooms. This helps meet the needs of both the younger and older children.
- Children can easily choose resources, and art and craft materials, for themselves, which promotes their independence and choice.
- Children have good relationships with staff and each other. They play well together and there is a positive and purposeful atmosphere at the club.
- Staff show a good commitment to continually developing the club. They all contribute to improvement plans and share ideas for good practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully developed the range of outdoor play experiences for children throughout the whole year.
- Staff do not always implement the systems for working with parents and the school fully consistently, to ensure children always benefit from a shared approach to their care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend outdoor play experiences further by increasing the range of activities available outside throughout the year
- review the systems for sharing information with parents and the school about children's needs, to ensure a smooth transition and consistent approach for all children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in activities indoors and outside.
- The inspection had discussions with staff, the club supervisor and the manager.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation including children's records and evidence of staff suitability.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Rebecca Khabbazi

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Staff plan a wide range of indoor activities for children that complement their experiences at school. Children come into the club happily, and quickly choose something to do. Staff talk to them as they play and join in with activities. They engage children in discussions and listen to them attentively, which supports children's language development well. Children enjoy setting up a school in the role-play area and using their imagination while making flower pictures at the creative table. They take part in a good range of physical activities in the outdoor area and are able to take other resources outside in the warmer months, but staff do not fully extend this throughout the year. Staff adapt activities for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and for younger children as needed so that everyone is included. They usually gather most of the information they need about children before they start at the club. However, occasionally some details are not shared between parents, the club and the school until after children begin attending. This has limits slightly the support some children receive when settling in and on the consistency of care.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff supervise children effectively and make daily checks of the environment to make sure they can play safely. They are positive role models and have good relationships with children. They provide consistent guidance and support, and make their expectations clear. This helps children behave well. Children are confident in the club and familiar with the daily routine. They independently set out activities and put them away when they have finished. Staff provide a good variety of freshly prepared meals and snacks. Children serve themselves from big bowls at tea time and scrape their plates ready for washing up afterwards. Staff talk to children to help them learn about the importance of daily exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

Staff show a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There are robust procedures for recruitment and vetting, which help ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. All staff attend child protection training and know what to do if they have concerns about a child's welfare. The manager monitors staff performance through regular supervision. Staff receive good support to extend their qualifications. For instance, two staff are currently completing play-work courses and this has had a positive impact on play experiences for children. Staff have positive relationships with parents and talk to them every day to exchange information. Comments from parents show that they value the club and are happy with the care provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119924
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	842774
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	St. Pauls Trading Limited
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2010
Telephone number	01932-780005

Acorn After School Club registered in 1999. It operates from a pavilion within the grounds of St. Paul's College in Sunbury-on-Thames, Surrey. The club provides after-school care for children attending St. Ignatius School. It is open from 3pm to 6pm each weekday during term time. There are five members of staff who work at the club. Of these, three hold relevant qualifications at level 3 and one holds a level 2 qualification.

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