

School's Out @ APS

APS School, 6 West Road, Bowdon, ALTRINCHAM, Cheshire, WA14 2LE



Inspection date	22 May 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- All staff have a thorough knowledge and understanding of all safeguarding practices. They are aware of the signs, symptoms and possible indicators of abuse and neglect. This means that children are very well protected and their safety is assured.
- A secure settling-in procedure is in place. Key persons are allocated time to get to know children and their families. This means that children settle very well and their physical and emotional well-being is successfully promoted.
- Partnership working is strong. Staff have established secure links with the local community and primary school. Children's learning from school is fully complemented and parents are kept well informed of their child's progress and time at the club.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good. As a result, children receive a play programme that offers sufficient challenge, captures their interest and enables them to make good progress.
- Self-evaluation is strong. Improvement plans are sharply focused and include the views of children, staff and parents. The manager and her senior leadership team demonstrate a strong commitment to bring about change and drive improvement forward.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for staff to share, support and facilitate each other's professional practice skills have not been fully exploited by the manager.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for staff to share, support and facilitate each other's practice skills, in order to raise the good standard of teaching and professional practice across the club to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the designated rooms and viewed the resources, equipment and the outside space available to children.
- The inspector spoke with children, the manager, staff, and the registered provider, carers and operations manager at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the manager and operations manager.
- The inspector looked at children's records, evidence of the suitability of adults working at the setting and a range of other documentation, including self-evaluation, fire drills and risk assessment.

Inspector

Luke Heaney

Inspection findings

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

The well-qualified staff team have a good understanding of how to engage children in meaningful and purposeful play programmes. For example, staff provide opportunities for children to develop their communication and language skills, during role-play activities. They promote children's large muscle skills while playing football and encourage children to develop their critical thinking skills while playing board games. Children enjoy their time at the club and are eager to explore their play surroundings. They operate computer programs, build towers, read books and become fascinated while searching for bugs outdoors. Staff develop children's independence skills well. They encourage children to tend to their own physical needs, tidy toys away and discuss the importance of sharing resources with each other. This means that children develop good personal and social skills in readiness for their move from the Reception class to school.

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

Care practices are good across the club. As a result, children are self-motivated and self-confident individuals who are keen to try new experiences, such as balancing on different sized beams outdoors. Staff discuss all aspects of healthy living with children and provide them with wholesome and nutritious foods. Consequently, children discuss the significance of brushing their teeth and talk about the importance of washing their hands before having snack. Children have access to a well-equipped outdoor area and receive lots of opportunities to be physically active. Robust risk assessment procedures are in place and all areas of the club are safe and fit for purpose. Staff are good role models and provide children with clear, consistent and age-appropriate behavioural expectations. As a result, children's behaviour is good.

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

The manager and her senior leadership team have a secure knowledge and understanding of the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Robust recruitment and vetting procedures are in place and all staff have undergone stringent suitability checks. Staff receive a wide range of training, which impacts well on their teaching practices and has positive outcomes for children. For example, a recent training programme has enabled staff to engage boys in meaningful imaginative and physical play outdoors. Supervision and appraisal systems are securely in place and staff receive the relevant support, coaching and mentoring. However, opportunities for staff to share their knowledge and expertise with each other, in order to build on the already good practice, have not been fully exploited by the manager.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413978
Local authority	Trafford
Inspection number	884172
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	38
Name of provider	Elmscot Day Nursery Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	01619800488

Schools Out @ APS was registered in 2010. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold a relevant qualification at level 6, one holds a qualification at level 3 and one staff member is unqualified. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 3pm until 6pm.

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