

Xyz After School Club

Alban City School, St Albans AL1 3RR



Inspection date	6 November 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

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

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 enjoy their time at the club. They are busy throughout the session, involved in purposeful play and creative experiences.
- Relationships between staff and children are good. Children are comfortable around staff and they actively encourage staff participation in their games.
- Parents are happy with the club. They appreciate the care given to their children. Parents say staff are friendly and that their children are happy and settled.
- Leaders and managers at the club maintain good partnerships with the host school. Staff use the professional relationships with school teachers well to ensure the club provides good support for children's continual development.
- Staff make effective use of evaluation tools, such as the learning walks, to help them identify possible improvements to the provision for children.
- Leaders and managers regularly review the systems they use for organising the day-to-day management of the club. This helps them to develop secure procedures, such as those used to keep track of children who attend different after school clubs during the session.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for staff to develop their skills and expand their already good knowledge of playwork and early years practice are limited.
- The younger children do not have as many opportunities as the older children to contribute their ideas for activities and experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further opportunities for staff development to help them build on their already good skills
- extend the involvement of the youngest children in planning activities and experiences at the club.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of interaction between staff and children during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's experience.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the providers, manager and staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the setting.
- The inspector discussed and evaluated children's play with the manager.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The senior team responsible for the overall management is organised and professional. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager is clear about her responsibility as a designated person for safeguarding. She ensures procedures are understood and that staff follow them when there are causes for concern. Staff deployment throughout the club is good. The manager makes sure she has staff to prepare and serve food and others to support play inside and outdoors. Procedures for greeting parents and children and for collection have changed to ensure parents and children are safe and can get on with their day as quickly as possible. Staff are vigilant about monitoring safety and ensuring the areas used by the club are left clean and tidy for the school. Staff have regular meetings as a team. Staff participate in an annual appraisal and have two supervision meetings with the manager where they reflect on their practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The interaction between staff and children is good. Children and staff play together with the various activities throughout the session. There is a wide range of activities available. Staff use children's interests to help them plan suitable recreational experiences. The dough is popular. Children use tools and moulds to make their creations. Children demonstrate good hand control. They are careful as they try to release the dough from the moulds without damage. Children explain what they are doing. They are articulate and imaginative. Children enjoy pretend play. They use play figures in the small houses and make up stories. Children link their play to their own experiences. Older children have good opportunities to suggest activities and to organise the resources they need. Children talk enthusiastically about the special events and celebrations that staff organise for them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff take great care to plan for and monitor children's health needs. They use effective systems to ensure children's essential medication is passed safely between home, the club and school. Children at the club behave well. They listen to staff and respond to the polite requests, such as helping to tidy up and when the register is called. Outside, children ask staff if they can collect balls that have gone over the fence between the playground and the building. The children understand it is important that staff know where they are when outside. Children demonstrate their understanding of keeping themselves safe. There are good opportunities for outdoor play. Staff play ball games with the children. There is plenty of physical activity in the fresh air. Children have a good selection of food to choose for their snack. The meals include plenty of healthy choices and reflect children's likes and dietary needs. Children use the same serving area as they do in school. They easily manage the trays, carrying them carefully as they move along the counter choosing what they want to eat.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY538059
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10079245
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 - 11
Total number of places	60
Number of children on roll	132
Name of registered person	Abc-Xyz Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP538058
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07766347646

Xyz After School Club registered in 2016. The club employs 23 members of childcare staff. Of these, 4 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.30am and from 3.30pm until 6pm and until 5.30pm on Fridays.

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