

Inspection of Abc Childcare at St Michaels

St Michael's School, Leigh Road, Atherton, MANCHESTER M46 0PA

Inspection date:

5 September 2025

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children are happy in this warm and friendly after-school club. Staff provide reassuring routines that help children to settle in quickly and feel confident that they know what will happen next. Children enjoy eating a healthy snack together when they arrive as they talk to staff about their busy days in school. Staff listen attentively, offering them support to explore their feelings. Children enjoy participating in a 'show and tell' session, which gives them the opportunity to share their achievements with their friends.

Staff play alongside the children. For example, staff play the part of the pet owner as they visit the vet role play children have created. This enables staff to support children to share, take turns and ensure everyone feels included.

Staff have high expectations of children's behaviour and role model this by speaking to children with kindness and respect. Staff promote children's confidence. They praise their good behaviour and effort as they help to clear the table after snack. Staff ensure all children feel included and welcome in the setting. They are responsive to children's needs and appreciate each child's individuality.

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

- Staff encourage children to choose how they spend their time in the setting. They can choose from a range of activities and staff support them to follow their interests. This ensures children are engaged.
- Staff support children to be kind and supportive of each other. Children explain how they help younger children feel happy and settled by including them in their games. Children's behaviour is good and this contributes to the positive, harmonious environment.
- Staff encourage children to be physically active outdoors. They help children to learn new skills, such as hitting a ball with a bat and participating in football. This provides children with challenge and helps them to develop resilience as they keep trying.
- Staff provide healthy snacks for children. They offer a range of fruit and vegetables, explain the importance of being hydrated and praise children for making healthy choices. This practice promotes a healthy lifestyle.
- Staff support children to build self-esteem. They celebrate children's achievements in extra-curricular activities through daily 'show and tell' sessions. They praise children for their individual talents, such as singing. This boosts children's confidence.
- In the main, staff help children to understand how they can keep themselves safe. They tell children to stay where they can be seen outdoors and remind

them of rules, such as no running indoors. However, staff do not help children understand when they might be at risk using digital technology and how to seek support if they need it.

- Communication with parents is effective. Families feel comfortable talking to staff and there is a two-way flow of information. They work closely with parents to meet the needs of all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Leaders and staff work together to improve their practice. They regularly evaluate the service they offer and undertake frequent training in areas that will help them support the children in their care. As a result, practice and provision continually improve.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY476588
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	10399071
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 at time of inspection	5 to 11
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	48
Name of registered person	ABC Pre-School Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP904175
Telephone number	07495 334579
Date of previous inspection	19 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

Abc Childcare at St Michaels registered in 2014. It is independently run on the premises of St Michael's Primary School, Atherton, Wigan. The provision employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold early years qualifications at level 3, one holds a qualification at level 2 and one holds a qualification at level 1. Sessions are term time only, from 3.15pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Natalie Myatt

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the after-school club.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The human resources manager told the inspector about their recruitment procedures.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual/registered individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- Several parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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