

Inspection of Explosion The Altogether Club

Sutton Road School, Retrace Centre, Moor Lane, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 5SF

Inspection date:

3 July 2024

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Not met (with actions)

Previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Leaders of the club have not ensured that all elements of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage' are in place to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. That said, the manager and staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures.

Staff promote children's well-being as they warmly greet them as they arrive at the breakfast club. Children are excited to talk to staff about what they will be doing at school. Some of the staff at the club also work at the school, so they know the children very well. Staff also talk to teachers from the school to gain further important information about the children's day. Additionally, they share strategies for supporting children that have worked well in the club. This sharing of information provides continuity in children's care to support them to be happy and settled in the club and at school.

At the end of the breakfast club, staff walk children to their classroom, ensuring they arrive safely. Staff talk warmly to the children about seeing some of them at the end of the school day. They talk about continuing to build the models that they have started during the morning session. This supports children's well-being as they are helped to understand the structure of their individual days.

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

- Leaders have not ensured that some administrative elements of the statutory requirements are maintained. Public liability insurance is not in place and records of attendance do not contain the necessary detail to fully meet the statutory requirement. That said, children are kept safe in the setting. The manager and staff have completed mandatory first-aid training to support children's safety. Staff are confidently able to identify signs of a child who may be subject to abuse and know how to report any concerns they may have.
- The staff know the children well, and the key-person system is effective. They work closely with teachers from the school to gather information about individual children's needs. Consequently, staff have a wealth of information about the children they care for and are able to meet their needs effectively. Staff plan activities for children based closely on what they like to do, meaning children are engaged in their play throughout the session.
- Staff carefully plan the environment to meet the needs of all children. For example, staff set up areas for different types of play. They create areas for children to be imaginative, such as craft activities and a variety of mark-making resources and colouring books. Children benefit from quiet areas, where they can relax and read a book or use construction toys to create their own models.

- Staff ensure that routines are consistently adhered to, so that they are well known to the children. This helps to provide a sense of safety and security for the children. Children follow instructions well and help to tidy up toys and games they have been playing with.
- Staff promote children's behaviour with a range of strategies, such as giving them responsibilities. For example, children help themselves to what they would like to eat at breakfast. Children play cooperatively with each other, and enjoy playing in mixed-age groups. Staff praise the care shown by the older children towards the younger ones. For example, older children cut pieces of foil to help younger children complete the decoration on a space ship.
- Children are provided with a range of healthy options for their breakfast, and independently serve themselves. They choose from a variety of cereals and toast, and help themselves to fruit from the fruit bowl. Children pour their own drinks, choosing whether they have milk or water. Snack time is a social occasion. Children sit and talk to their friends and develop good table manners.
- Staff communicate well with parents, to share information about activities children have enjoyed at the club and information from the child's day at school. Parents speak positively about the staff and the club. They appreciate the opportunities for their children to socialise with children of different ages, and say their children enjoy activities with their friends.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
obtain the appropriate insurance	17/07/2024
ensure a daily record of the hours of attendance for children being cared for is maintained.	17/07/2024

Setting details

Unique reference number	253262
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10338363
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	20
Number of children on roll	43
Name of registered person	Retrace Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP525389
Telephone number	07904451898
Date of previous inspection	25 September 2018

Information about this early years setting

Explosion The Altogether Club registered in 1996. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, three 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 3.15pm until 5.30pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lianne McElvaney

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The Inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- The manager talked to the inspector about the activities provided at the club.
- The quality of interactions during activities was observed.
- The inspector spoke with the management team, the staff, the parents and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the management team. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff.

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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