

Inspection of Explosion The Altogether Club

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

Inspection date:

2 May 2025

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Not Met (with actions)

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

When children arrive at the club, they show an understanding of the routine that staff embed. For instance, children choose what breakfast they would like, sit down to eat and then select and play with toys and resources to promote their interests. Children know the staff well because they also care for them in the host school. This helps children to feel secure being around familiar adults. Children work as a team with their peers and staff to complete activities, such as to look for words in puzzles. Children show that they understand staff's expectations for their behaviour. For instance, they tell visitors that they need to share and make sure that everyone is included in activities.

Younger children are confident to share their thoughts and experiences with staff. For example, when staff ask them about their home experiences, children tell them that they look for different birds. These back-and-forth discussions help children to remember previous events. When children engage in craft activities, staff show them how to scrunch tissue paper into small balls. They ask children to think about how they can make larger balls. Children tell staff that they can use two pieces of paper, showing how they can think and find solutions. Older children explain to visitors that their favourite things to do at the club are to play outside with balls and hoops.

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

- Since the last inspection, the provider ensures that the club has appropriate insurance in place. Staff maintain a register to show the times children arrive and leave the club. This meets statutory requirements.
- Staff help children to understand the expectations for their conduct. This includes explaining rules and showing posters around the room to remind children of these. Children receive praise from staff, helping to raise their self-esteem, such as when they colour in pictures of flowers.
- Children are given responsibilities in the club. This includes staff asking children to tidy away toys and making sure everything is picked up off the floor before they leave. Children listen and follow staff's instructions.
- Staff complement the learning children receive at school, helping to provide consistency for children. For example, when children learn about gardening at school, staff offer them word searches to look for words relating to gardens. Children help staff to water plants at the host school.
- Staff reflect on their practice and make changes to improve the experiences children receive. Recent changes were made from noticing that instead of children playing board games, they prefer to make up their own games. Therefore, staff provide children with the resources to enable them to do this,

helping children to follow their interests.

- Parents say how staff are very friendly, helpful and professional. They say how their children love going to the club and cannot wait to go back. Staff share information with parents about their children's time in the club, helping to keep them informed about parts of their children's day.
- Staff attend training courses that help to develop their knowledge of how to meet children's specific health needs. However, staff do not fully support children to understand the importance of following hand-hygiene routines before they eat, to help contribute to their good health.
- Staff offer children a nutritious range of food and drinks. They provide experiences for children to taste different foods to help expand their diet. This includes asking children to try different foods from around the world. Children say that their favourite food in the club is pizza and their drink is water. However, staff do not fully help children to understand the importance of oral health.
- Staff encourage children to be independent. Children choose what they want to eat for breakfast and select their bowl. When children finish eating, they take their bowls to staff. Furthermore, staff encourage children to put on their shoes by themselves, giving gentle reminders about which feet to put them on.

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	253262
Local authority	Nottinghamshire County Council
Inspection number	10361438
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	4 to 10
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	46
Name of registered person	Retrace Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP525389
Telephone number	07903045070
Date of previous inspection	3 July 2024

Information about this early years setting

Explosion The Altogether Club registered in 1997. It is situated in the grounds of Sutton Road School, Mansfield and is run independently from the school. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens 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

Hayley Ruane

Inspection activities

- The manager and the inspector completed a tour of all areas of the club.
- The inspector observed activities and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager. She reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector reviewed feedback from parents and took account of their views.

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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