

Inspection of OLSK Acorns

OUR LADY OF ST KENELM RC PRIMARY SCHOOL, Bundle Hill, Halesowen B63 4AR

Inspection date:

25 November 2024

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children arrive at the club with enthusiasm and are greeted by the nurturing team. They explore the abundance of exciting activities that have been prepared for them and choose what they would like to take part in first. Children are invited to join the snack area as they arrive at the club. Staff recognise the importance of supporting the health and well-being of children. They are well informed about children's individual health and dietary needs and take appropriate steps to cater for these. Children choose what they would like to eat from a menu that is designed by them. They confidently tell staff what they would like to eat and drink. Children independently access fruit and yogurts and understand the importance of eating healthily.

Staff know the children very well and prioritise their happiness during their time at the club. They take their time to chat to children and to get to know their individual interests, which helps them to plan creative activities. This helps children to feel safe and happy. Staff recognise when children begin to feel strong emotions and sensitively talk to them to check if they are ok. Staff are positive role models. They speak to children and other team members with respect and talk to children about kindness and how to share with others. As a result, children are caring towards each other and behave very well.

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

- Children enjoy taking part in creative activities that are carefully planned by the passionate team. The team recognise children's love for imaginative play. They provide exciting craft resources for children to combine and create elaborate costumes. Children work harmoniously to plan and make their designs. They demonstrate pride in their achievements as they hold a fashion show. Children practice the British value of democracy as they vote for their favourite costume.
- Children benefit from a wide range of activities to choose from. Young children immerse themselves in building a train track. They work together collaboratively to join pieces together and negotiate where to turn the pieces of track. Children build houses using magnetic shapes. They explore creatures, picking them up with tweezers and transporting them. Quieter spaces are available in the library, where children can take some time out to share stories.
- Staff take appropriate steps to keep children safe. They collect children from their classrooms and bring them safely to the club for their afternoon session. Children tell staff when they need to use the bathroom. Staff share with others that they are leaving the room and escort children to and from the bathroom. The environment is clean and tidy. When there are materials on the floor that could become a slip hazard, children help staff to tidy up.

- There are strong links between the club and the school. Important information is shared between club staff, school staff and parents. This means that information is shared appropriately to create seamless transitions for children. Leaders and managers attend parents' meetings in the school to provide support and develop positive links.
- Parents speak with fondness about the team and the care that they provide for their children. They receive regular updates about the activities that their children have taken part in. The team share questionnaires with parents to find out their opinions of the club and to receive feedback on how they can improve their service. Leaders and managers respond swiftly to parental suggestions and take action, where appropriate.
- A positive safeguarding culture is embedded throughout the club. Leaders and managers follow robust vetting procedures for staff and ensure that all staff receive ongoing safeguarding training. Staff and managers have a deep understanding of their roles in safeguarding children and know how to report any concerns that they may have about the welfare of children.
- Staff and managers are passionate about delivering the best care for children. They talk positively about their roles in the setting and strengthen their skills through regular training. Leaders and managers provide regular supervision to staff and conduct routine staff meetings to share news and information to inform practice. This means that staff feel well informed and report that their well-being is supported.

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	2698585
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10364384
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	3 to 11
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	60
Name of registered person	Melanie Gooch & Samantha Riley Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP908401
Telephone number	07866264499
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

OLSK Acorns registered in 2022 and is located within Our Lady & St Kenelm Primary School, Halesowen. The club employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens on Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ali Myers

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate 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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