

Inspection of Stay And Play

Lakeside Primary School, Hatherley Road, CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire GL51 6HR

Inspection date:

4 October 2024

**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

Children enjoy their time at this welcoming out-of-school club. They form positive relationships with the caring staff and eagerly greet them when collected from their classrooms at the end of the school day. Staff provide children with clear routines and expectations and encourage them to take responsibility for their belongings. Children place these safely in the corner of the hall, so they know where to find them when it is time to go home. During registration, children stand up with their peers in their year group. Staff emphasise the importance of listening carefully to the register and sitting down when their name is called. This helps to ensure that staff know that everyone is safe and accounted for.

Staff provide a wide range of inviting activities for children to choose from, such as table top games, play dough, and small-world play. Children make independent choices about their play. Some build train tracks with friends, while others quietly create autumn pictures with water colours. Children thoughtfully mix colours and carefully paint within the outlines of pictures. Staff provide clear explanations to children who have not used water colours before. They advise them to use plenty of water on the brush before dipping it into the paint. Children are proud of their creations and keen to take them home to share with their parents.

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

- The provider has made a number of improvements to the club since the last inspection. She has updated her safeguarding knowledge and revised all child protection policies to align with local authority guidance. The provider shares these policies with staff and ensures they attend regular safeguarding training. Staff are equipped with the necessary knowledge and understanding to respond to concerns if needed.
- The provider meets with staff on a monthly basis to discuss daily practice and monitor their safeguarding knowledge. This approach ensures that staff are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and promotes a culture of ongoing improvement. Staff report that they are happy in their roles and enjoy working at the club.
- An effective key-person system is in place. Each child is assigned a key person during the induction period and this is shared with children's teachers and parents. At the end of each session, staff provide parents with individual verbal feedback, including any messages passed on from class teachers. While waiting for their children, parents are encouraged to review information on the newly introduced whiteboard at the entrance of the club. This includes information about the activities and snacks provided each day.
- Partnerships with the host school are effective. Staff working at the setting also

have roles as teaching assistants and lunch cover within the linked school. This helps staff to establish strong relationships with children, teachers and school staff. Staff use their knowledge gathered during the school day to ensure that children's individual needs are met, helping them feel settled and secure during their time at the club.

- Staff support children's understanding of healthy routines. They encourage children to follow good hygiene practice and to wash their hands before snack time. Staff supervise children well and explain the reasons why washing hands is important. They provide children with a healthy snacks during their time at the club. Children sit up at the table alongside their peers and independently spread toppings onto their toast.
- Children behave well. Staff follow the school's ethos for behaviour to ensure children have a clear understanding of what is expected from them. Children are aware of the club's rules, which are on display in the hall. They are kind to each other and respectful of the clubs's toys and resources. Children are helpful and eager to assist staff with tidying away resources that they have finished playing with.
- Parents speak highly of the club and the team of staff that care for their children. They feel well informed about the experiences their children engage in and share that their children are always happy to attend. Parents particularly appreciate the club's flexibility, stating that as working parents they would be lost without this service. They express that if they could rate the club, they would give it 'a thousand out of ten'.

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	EY536380
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	10338380
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 11
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	125
Name of registered person	Berry, Rachel Louise
Registered person unique reference number	RP536379
Telephone number	07551968209
Date of previous inspection	19 October 2023

Information about this early years setting

Stay and Play registered in 2016. It operates from Lakeside Primary School in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The club is open each morning from 7.45am to 8.45am and each afternoon from 3.15pm to 6pm, every week day during term time.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Holly Smith

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 observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The provider 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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