

Inspection of The Little Sutton Club

Little Sutton School, Worcester Lane, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands
B75 5NL

Inspection date: 6 March 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive at the nursery full of enthusiasm for the day ahead. They are happy, confident and relaxed in this welcoming and vibrant environment. Warm relationships and close bonds are apparent between the children and staff. Staff provide children with lots of praise and encouragement. Children demonstrate high levels of confidence and self-esteem along with a 'can-do' attitude. They are eager to demonstrate a new dance routine to visitors. Children talk with enthusiasm about their home life and experiences. This helps children to learn about each other and the different cultures of their friends.

Staff have high expectations for children's learning. They provide children with rich, varied and imaginative experiences that promote children's curiosity and discussion. Staff extend children's knowledge as they play. For example, as children take part in a nature-inspired bookmark-making activity, staff extend children's knowledge as they teach them that flowers have petals, leaves and a stem. Staff ensure children have a good knowledge of the rules and boundaries of the nursery. Children are enthusiastic learners who enjoy their time in the nursery. All children make good progress from their starting points. Children are prepared well for their next stage of learning, including their eventual move into school.

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

- Leaders are passionate about their role. They are dedicated to ensuring all children have the best possible start in life. Leaders have devised a well-sequenced and ambitious curriculum that builds on what children already know and can do. They provide staff with regular training opportunities to help to continually improve their knowledge and practice. Leaders ensure that additional government funding is used effectively to benefit those for whom it is intended.
- Staff make regular observations and assessments of children's learning. They use this information to provide a wide range of fun activities that motivate children to join in.
- Staff are good role models. They speak to children with respect and demonstrate good manners and kindness. Staff are consistent in their approach and speak to children in a calm and sensitive manner. Children behave well. They are polite to staff and each other. Children are kind and welcome others into their play.
- Staff teach children about healthy lifestyles. Children learn the importance of good oral health and a healthy diet. Children benefit from and thoroughly enjoy the morning exercise activity outdoors. They giggle as they jump, stretch and run on the spot. However, staff do not fully promote children's learning potential in the nursery's outdoor area, as activities are limited to physical play.
- Throughout the nursery, staff support children's mathematical development. For example, staff teach children to count and to recognise shapes and numbers.

Children demonstrate their awareness of numbers as they recognise a total of objects without counting.

- Staff support children to develop their independence. They encourage children to do as much as they can for themselves. Children make choices about their play and when they want to eat their snack. Children in the two-year-olds' room learn to put on their coats. Pre-school children can manage their own personal care.
- Staff support children to become confident and effective communicators. Throughout the day, staff engage children in meaningful discussions. Children develop a love of books as they listen intently to stories and repeat familiar phrases. However, on occasions, staff interrupt children's learning unnecessarily. For example, as children engage in focused activities, they are called away to wash their hands in readiness for lunch. This means that during these times, children do not fully benefit from the educational experiences on offer.
- Staff provide children with opportunities to strengthen their small muscles in readiness for developing further skills, such as pencil control. Children have great fun as they manipulate dough as they push, squeeze, pat and roll it.
- Staff prioritise children's safety. They supervise children at all times. Accident forms are completed as required. Head counts are completed as children move around the nursery to ensure all children are accounted for.
- Parents speak very highly of the staff and the service they provide. They say their children look forward to attending. Parents comment on the good communication they receive about their children's learning. They say their children make good progress during their time in the nursery.

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 further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- enhance the outside area to provide a greater variety of rich and challenging experiences for children
- review the organisation of routines so that children's learning is not interrupted unnecessarily.

Setting details

Unique reference number	228942
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	10390200
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 11
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	148
Name of registered person	The Little Sutton Club and Nursery School Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP523038
Telephone number	0121 323 4975
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

The Little Sutton Club registered in 1991. The nursery employs 19 members of childcare staff. Of these, 11 hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 2 or above. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday all year round. Sessions are from 7.45am to 5.45pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The nursery also offers a before- and after-school club and holiday care.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Karen Laycock

Inspection activities

- The inspector held meetings with the nursery manager to discuss how the curriculum and nursery are organised.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation to evaluate the impact of teaching on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors to assess the impact of this on children's learning.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and gave their views of the nursery.
- The inspector spoke to staff and the children at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of staff suitability.

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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