

Inspection of Tiddlywinks Out Of School Club (TOOSC)

St Clare's RC Primary School, Blackley, Manchester M9 0RR

Inspection date:

8 September 2025

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

There is a lively and happy atmosphere at this well organised and effectively led after-school club. Club staff collect children from their classrooms and exchange key information with school staff. Children chat happily about their school day as they make their way to the club. They understand that there are routines in place in order to keep them safe. Children put on high-visibility vests and wait carefully to cross over the driveway at the designated crossing point. This ensures that there is a smooth transition from school to the club and that children arrive settled and relaxed.

Staff have clear expectations for behaviour, which are well understood by all children. At the start of the club, children sit together and staff choose a child to read out the club expectations to the rest of the children. Children sit quietly and listen politely as their friend reads. Children are invited to contribute to a discussion about interesting things that have happened at school or at home over the weekend. Children enthusiastically talk about places they have been and events at school. Staff value and welcome all children's contributions. This demonstrates the positive relationships between the children and staff and supports children to develop their self-confidence.

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

- There is a strong ethos among club leaders and staff of listening to and valuing children's opinions. Children work with staff to plan which activities they would like to take part in over the next week. For example, children suggest running a talent show. They are supported and encouraged by the enthusiastic staff to plan what they need to do to prepare and run the event. This shows how children's ideas are valued and that children have agency at the club.
- Children have lots of opportunities to develop their critical thinking skills at the club. They work together to fit tubes together to make a marble run. Staff encourage children to think for themselves about how to extend the run and get it to stand firmly on the floor. Children continue to try hard to get the marbles to run all the way down the tubes. They are delighted when they drop a marble at the top and it rolls all the way to the bottom. Staff are full of praise for their efforts. These interactions encourage children to continue to try hard when something is difficult and builds their resilience.
- Children sit together to eat freshly prepared food and have a drink at a table beautifully laid with a cloth and flowers. There is a calm and respectful atmosphere, and children respond accordingly. Children politely thank staff and each other when they are passed something and remember to say 'please' without being reminded. They pour themselves a drink and serve themselves

from a large bowl of appetising pasta and a platter of fruit. This supports children to develop their social skills and independence well.

- Children get plenty of exercise and fresh air in the large outdoor space. They make their way along a trail crossing over a bridge and swings, encouraged and supported by staff to hold on tightly and keep their balance. Children of all ages cooperate and play team games together, such as football and cricket and with bats and balls. This helps to promote children's core strength and coordination.
- Parents are full of praise for the club staff and the care which their children receive. They say that they value the fact that 'learners lead' at the club and appreciate the warm, respectful and positive relationships between staff and children. Parents report that communication between the club and parents is excellent and that they work in a positive partnership with club leaders and staff.
- Staff report that they are well supported by club leaders and the wider team. Staff meet regularly with leaders to discuss their professional development and any training needs. They have opportunities to observe each other working with the children and to share good practice. This ensures that staff are continually enhancing and improving their skills.

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	EY410883
Local authority	Manchester
Inspection number	10399063
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	40
Number of children on roll	44
Name of registered person	Tiddlywinks Day Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP526674
Telephone number	07875 246463
Date of previous inspection	19 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

Tiddlywinks Out Of School Club registered in 2010. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above, including one with early years professional status. The club opens from Monday to Friday during term-times only. Sessions are from 3.15pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Gower-Jones

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 the children.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.

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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