

Inspection of Castle care Club at Meadows School

Meadows School, Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 0AH

Inspection date:

7 October 2024

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children excitedly enter the club after school. They show their understanding of the routine as they go straight to register their attendance with staff. Staff set up a wide range of experiences and activities for the children. These are based on children's interests and provide them with 'new' experiences. Children confidently and independently select where they would like to play. They maintain high levels of engagement as they play. Children enjoy sensory experiences, such as play dough and painting. They use the tools on hand to help construct their own 'art pieces'. Children smile with delight as they show staff what they have made.

Staff show high levels of care towards each child. Children state that they like coming to the club. They have formed positive bonds with each other and with the staff who care for them. Children use their imagination as they play with dolls. They show lots of nurture as they feed, dress, change and put the dolls to sleep. Staff immediately notice when children are close to 'off boundary' areas. They remind children of the places that are safe for them to play. In addition, staff quickly remind children of the rules when they make undesired choices. They talk to the children softly and encourage them to take turns. Children respond to this extremely well.

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

- Leaders are passionate about working with children. They take effective steps to ensure that the club is safe, secure and clean. Leaders are keen to ensure their club meets the needs of all children they care for and parents they work with.
- Leaders understand the importance of working in partnership with others to ensure all children have their needs met. They state that they would make reasonable adjustments to ensure the environment and resources are accessible for all children.
- Leaders work well in partnership with the school, particularly if they have concerns about a child's development. They gather and share key information with the school about the children. Staff use their observations to help monitor what support children require. This helps them to identify what they need to put in place to ensure all children receive the help and consistency they require.
- Parents speak extremely positively about the club. They state that their children love to attend. Staff work closely with parents. They capture key information about each child when they first start attending. Staff keep parents informed about their child's day and any important notices.
- Leaders place focus on supporting staff's well-being. They have regular meetings with staff. This helps staff to feel confident to ask for any help or support they require. Staff have opportunities to attend some training. They speak highly

about the support they receive from leaders.

- Staff provide lots of opportunities for children to learn how they can live healthy lifestyles. Children are given a wide range of choices for snack time and mealtimes. They think carefully about what fillings they would like in their wraps. Children help themselves to water. Staff talk to the children about what their bodies need. Children have plenty of opportunities to practise their physical skills, such as running, kicking or throwing balls into a range of hoops.
- Staff deploy themselves well to ensure that children are supervised effectively throughout the day. They pay close attention to children who require more support to become fully engaged. Staff respond quickly in those circumstances and invite children to play with them. This helps to support children's emotional well-being and their sense of belonging.
- Staff are positive role models to the children. They use a range of methods to help manage children's behaviour. They use distraction in the first instance. Staff also remind children of the club's rules and praise them for what they do well. Children follow staff's instructions well.
- Staff are keen for children to learn about themselves and others. They talk to the children about what makes them unique. Staff also support children to understand their differences and similarities. They use a range of celebrations throughout the year to develop children's understanding of the wider world.

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	EY290044
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10362189
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 12
Total number of places	70
Number of children on roll	109
Name of registered person	Castle Nursery Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP904556
Telephone number	07801 865 245
Date of previous inspection	6 February 2019

Information about this early years setting

Castle care Club at Meadows School registered in 2004. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Out of these, four staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The club opens during term time only, Monday to Friday. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.45am and from 3.15pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Chinyuku

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the club and discussed the safety and suitability of it.
- Leaders carried out a learning walk with the inspector and explained how they work in partnership with the school.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents and took account of their views.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- Leaders showed the inspector a range of documents to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.

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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