

Inspection of St Francis PALS

St. Francis C Of E School, Cherry Tree Lane, Blackburn BB2 5NX

Inspection date:

21 March 2024

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

Summary of key findings

This provision meets requirements

- The manager demonstrates how she provides a nurturing and inclusive club. She explains how she achieves this by building good adult-child relationships. For example, staff gather information about children so that they can support them as they settle into the club.
- The manager plans effective ways that help to keep children safe. For example, she follows a safer recruitment process. This helps to ensure that staff are suitable for the role. In addition, all staff hold a current paediatric first-aid certificate and know what to do in the case of an emergency. This helps to keep children safe.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles is important to the manager. She explains how she involves children in planning menus. The manager demonstrates how she uses discussion with children to build their knowledge of healthy eating. This helps to ensure that children learn how to keep themselves healthy.
- The manager explains how she promotes children's physical skills. She demonstrates how her close partnership working with the school allows the club access to a large outdoor area. This is used to encourage children to run, balance, climb and explore. The manager is aware that being outdoors has a positive impact on children's physical and mental well-being.
- The manager explains how she supports children's good behaviour. She describes how staff talk to children to help them understand their own feelings and to understand how their behaviour impacts on others. In addition, the manager explains how she works with teaching staff in school so that children receive consistent messages about positive attitudes to learning and behaviours.
- The manager explains how she supports children to have a sense of ownership of the club. She supports this by having familiar routines so that children can anticipate what will happen next in their day. In addition, she involves children in decision-making for the club. For example, gathering their ideas for activities and following their interests when planning activities and experiences.
- Older children who were present talk enthusiastically about their time at the club. They say they look forward to attending. Children say the best things about the club are the staff, playing with their friends and eating the snacks, which they thoroughly enjoy.
- The manager has considered how to build children's independence skills. She does this by introducing tasks that children take responsibility for. For example, she explains how children help to serve snacks. This helps children to feel a sense of ownership and take some responsibility for the club.

There were no children in the early years age range present when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no early years children present, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states whether the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2652653
Local authority	Blackburn with Darwen
Inspection number	10332904
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	0 to 0
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	114
Name of registered person	Play And Learn Scheme Community Interest Company
Registered person unique reference number	2550838
Telephone number	07764501092
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The club registered in 2021 and is located in Blackburn, Wigan. The club employs three members of childcare staff, of whom one holds a suitable early years qualification at level 6, and two at level 3. The club operates from 3.15pm to 5.45pm, Monday to Friday, term time only.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynn Richards

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the manager received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the club.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- Although there were no children in the early age range present at the time of inspection, there were children present who were over the age of five years.

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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