

Sunflower After School Club

Recreation Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 3PA



Inspection date	7 October 2015
Previous inspection date	20 May 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children have a thoroughly enjoyable time because the club is relaxed, unstructured and friendly. Staff plan a broad range of fun activities based on children's interests and introduce new experiences. Children are eager to take part, engaged and make progress in their chosen play.
- Staff establish warm and friendly relationships with children which support their emotional well-being. New children respond positively to key staff, who help them to feel secure, settle quickly and develop friendships with others.
- Children's personal and social skills are promoted very well by the club. Staff are good role models and display considerate and respectful behaviour. Children are helpful, show kindness and empathy with their friends if they become upset, and express tolerance and a mutual respect of others.
- Staff develop good links with the host school and share relevant information with teachers, which helps to ensure children's individual needs are met. This creates a consistent and complementary approach to children's learning.
- Partnerships with parents are very good. Parental feedback is very positive. They state that they value the service the club offers them and their children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There is capacity to extend the already good staff supervision arrangements to improve the quality of the provision even further.
- Staff do not always provide a quiet, cosy space for the children, particularly the younger ones, in order for them to relax and rest as they need.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide further opportunities for staff to use supervision sessions to reflect even more on their practice and encourage staff to share the very best practice consistently, in order to raise the quality of the provision even further
- enhance the provision for children to rest and relax, according to their needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities and observed the children and their interactions with staff.
- The inspector spoke with staff about their responsibilities and their knowledge of the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and a tour of the provision with the club manager.
- A range of documentation was examined including children's records, staff qualifications, some policies and procedures, accident records and registers.
- The inspector held a meeting with the club manager and the committee chairperson.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lindsey Cullum

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Management and staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities in meeting requirements. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a secure understanding of child protection procedures in the event of any concerns about a child or adult. Thorough recruitment and induction procedures are followed. Practice is underpinned by robust policies and procedures that are shared with parents. The manager supports staff development through regular supervisions, staff meetings and attending training. However, they do not always evaluate the effectiveness of staff performance and provide opportunities to share best practice amongst the team. The manager and committee aspire to improve the quality of the provision. Staff are proactive in requesting children's views and parents' feedback is valued and responded to positively. Parents receive regular newsletters and access the club's informative website, so they know about the provision and what activities are planned for their children. This enables them to share in their children's experiences and supports strong partnerships with parents.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are provided with a variety of stimulating activities and new experiences that build on their learning at school. Staff use their qualifications and experience effectively, to make sure children achieve well and make progress in their chosen activity. Children play in the role-play area set up as a travel agents. They share their holiday experiences with others and practice their writing or mathematical skills as they plan a pretend holiday from the brochures available. Children are very creative, imaginative and thoroughly enjoy exploring and making things from a range of materials. These are proudly displayed and taken home to show their parents. Children develop their communication, language and social skills as they join in conversations with staff and share information that interests them. They take turns and follow simple instructions. For example, when cooking they listen well while staff explain and demonstrate what they need to do, help pass the ingredients round and confidently tell the group what foods they like.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children clearly enjoy their time in the club and display high levels of motivation and engagement. Staff pay good attention to health and safety and complete daily checks of the environment. They help children identify potential hazards and risks, such as wet leaves on the playground and think about how they can play safely. Staff reinforce the core values held by the school, which are known by all children. Children behave very well and treat each other with respect. They are aware of boundaries and club rules that they form collectively. Children learn about other cultures, festivals and take part in charity events. This results in children embracing diversity and respecting differences between cultures. Staff promote children's personal skills very well. Children help to prepare for mealtimes and clear away after they have eaten. They develop a good understanding of maintaining a healthy lifestyle, through regular exercise and healthy eating. However, younger children do not always have a comfortable, quiet space to relax, according to their needs. Children access a well-resourced outdoor environment. They become confident in their own physical abilities as they play games and use climbing equipment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	257933
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	867101
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	52
Number of children on roll	105
Name of provider	Sunflower After School Club Committee
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2009
Telephone number	07950 471612

Sunflower After School Club was registered in 1994 and is run by a committee of parents and carers. The breakfast club is open each weekday from 8am to 9am, with the after school club opening from 3pm to 6pm, during term-time. During the school holidays the club is open from 8am to 6pm, most days according to the demand for places. The club employs 10 members of staff to work directly with the children. Of these, four hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 3 or above, one at level 2 and all are experienced in childcare or playwork.

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