

Polkadots Out Of School Care



Sussex Road Cp School, Sussex Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2TP

Inspection date	1 March 2017
Previous inspection date	19 October 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

- Managers and staff have worked hard to make changes since the previous inspection and have successfully improved the club. They constantly reflect on their practice to help identify further areas for development.
- Children are confident and settled in this friendly club. They have positive relationships with staff and each other and enjoy the activities provided.
- Staff work effectively in partnership with teachers at the school. For instance, they share information on a daily basis to help provide a consistent approach.
- Parents are kept well informed about the care provided and their child's well-being. For example, staff send out regular newsletters and make sure they are available to talk to parents each day.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff have not fully extended the range of freely available resources and activities for children who prefer to play outdoors.
- At times, a comfortable quiet area is not easily available for children who wish to relax, play or read quietly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the range of freely available resources and activities, in particular for children who prefer to play outdoors
- review and develop further the organisation of the available space to provide children with areas that they can rest or play quietly as they wish to during the session.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in activities inside and in the playground.
- The inspector had discussions with managers and staff about their practice.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the provider and discussed the arrangements for monitoring staff practice.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documents, including staff suitability records.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took their views into account.

Inspector

Rebecca Khabbazi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The provider completes thorough checks on all staff to assess their suitability to work with children when they start and during their employment. Staff or visitors who have not been checked are never left unsupervised with children. All staff have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding procedures. They know how to recognise and report any child protection concerns to help ensure children's safety and well-being. Managers monitor staff performance closely, for example, through individual and team meetings and observations of their practice. Staff have regular opportunities to extend their skills and knowledge. For example, they attend local courses and use online materials to help develop their practice. Staff regularly seek feedback from parents and children to help them evaluate the club and identify areas for future improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children come in happily after school and enjoy their time at the club. Staff know children well. For instance, they gather detailed information from parents before children start so they are aware of their interests and can fully meet their needs. Children make choices about their play. For example, they use the catalogue of equipment to select further items from the cupboard. Staff work effectively with the school to complement children's learning, such as working on 'home learning challenges' that teachers set to extend topics and activities that children enjoy in class. Staff guide and support children well and encourage them to express their own ideas, for example, when making patterns with beads. They provide a good variety of experiences overall. For instance, children enjoy imaginative games and making models with recycled materials. They are delighted to examine worms closely using a magnifier and share their discoveries with their friends.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff act as good role models. For instance, they respond to children warmly and offer consistent guidance and praise. Children behave well and treat each other with respect. They play well together, taking turns with equipment and sharing resources. Staff encourage children's independence skills well. For instance, children help themselves from the self-service snack bar, preparing their own food, spreading toppings and helping themselves to drinks. Staff are vigilant about supervising children at all times. They make thorough checks of the premises each day to identify and remove any hazards. Staff teach children useful skills and knowledge to help keep them safe, such as reminding them how to use equipment carefully and involving them in regular evacuation drills. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. For instance, they enjoy healthy snacks and understand why they need to wash their hands before they eat.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY445319
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1076851
Type of provision	Out of school provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 8
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	150
Name of registered person	Megan Jayne Turley
Registered person unique reference number	RP906376
Date of previous inspection	19 October 2016
Telephone number	07596 596 100

Polkadots Out Of School Care registered in 2012. It operates from Sussex Road School in Tonbridge, Kent. The breakfast club is open from 7.40am to 8.40am and the after-school club from 3.15pm to 6pm each weekday during term time. The club also runs during some holiday periods. There are five members of staff, four of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

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