

Inspection of The Bramble Patch

Toft Lodge, Stamford Road, Lound, Bourne PE10 0JY

Inspection date:

19 August 2025

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children arrive at the holiday club excited and eager to attend. Experienced and enthusiastic staff greet children on arrival. Staff are keen to provide a wealth of magical and exciting outdoor experiences. At the start of each session, children sit around the fire circle and welcome and introduce themselves to one another. This welcome serves as a nurturing opportunity for children to come together and discuss the day ahead. Staff pair children who are new to the club with peers of a similar age. This acts as a support for new children and encourages them to develop new friendships.

Throughout the day, children benefit from an array of activities that centre around carefully planned themed days. Leaders and staff are passionate about ensuring that children have a range of diverse outdoor experiences, alongside plenty of opportunities for free play and exploration. For example, during a themed day of woodland adventures, children participate in an animal scavenger hunt to discover the various creatures that live in the forest. Children engage in art activities, such as creating a woodland-themed mask. As staff communicate the day's itinerary, children look at their friends with excitement and tell each other that they are looking forward to having a go at the activities on offer.

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

- During free-play times, staff support children to develop their social and communication skills through imaginative play. As children play in the mud kitchen area, staff support them to create a 'forest restaurant'. Children laugh and chat with their friends as they discuss different recipes to try. Children use a variety of natural resources to pretend to make pies, hot chocolate and stew. Staff encourage children to offer their creations to those who pass by. As more children join, they then create a restaurant area and engage in conversations, such as how to behave in restaurants and to order from the menu.
- Leaders and staff work hard to ensure that they provide more focused activities that create opportunities for children to explore areas of interest in more depth. They plan woodland themes to allow children the opportunity to immerse themselves in the natural world and make discoveries. For example, children explore facts about owls by dissecting pellets. Children tell the inspector how excited they are to examine the owl pellets to see what they find.
- Staff build positive relationships with parents and carers. They get to know families well. Staff gather information about children before they start and ensure that they cater for all children's individual needs. Parents comment on how they appreciate the engaging staff and that their children enjoy returning to the club each year. Children tell the inspector that they look forward to coming

to the club. They say that staff are kind and help them when they need support.

- Children have many opportunities to be physically active throughout the day. They run, climb and explore the vast woodland space available to them. Staff also encourage children to take time to rest in the hammock areas when needed. They support children to select healthy snacks from their lunch boxes at snack time. This supports children to develop a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Staff support children to understand the rules of the forest and the expectations for their behaviour. Children listen well as they learn about the areas they can explore. They understand they need to return to the group area when the whistle blows. Children show they understand the rules as they confidently tell others about the rules of the fire circle. For instance, they explain that when the fire is on and they are toasting marshmallows, they must walk around the outskirts to keep safe.
- Leaders are highly reflective and are keen to ensure that the club continues to progress. They understand the club's strengths and strive to make continued improvements. More recently, the club has started to accept younger children. This has led to new staffing arrangements to ensure that children receive the individual care and support they require.
- When staff begin working at the club, they receive a thorough induction to ensure they understand their roles and responsibilities. Thereafter, leaders provide staff with regular opportunities for communication and training. Staff comment on how much they enjoy working at the club and value the support they receive.

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	2740648
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10407854
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	3 to 11
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	266
Name of registered person	Robinson, Elizabeth
Registered person unique reference number	2727651
Telephone number	07921186760
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Bramble Patch registered in 2023 and is located in Bourne, Lincolnshire. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three staff hold appropriate early years qualifications. The club is open during most school holidays, from 8am until 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Samantha Butterwick

Inspection activities

- The nominated individual showed the inspector around the premises and discussed how they ensure that they are safe and suitable.
- 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 spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the club.
- 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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