

Inspection of Bar Hill Out of School Club

Cambridge County Council, The Childrens Centre, Gladeside, Bar Hill, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB23 8DY

Inspection date: 15 October 2021

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 smile with delight as they are collected from their classroom by their key person. They are keen to share what they have achieved at school with other children, all staff and visitors. Children are friendly and use good manners when speaking to each other and staff. They show that they understand the expectations in place to keep them safe as they walk from the school hall to the club. They do this calmly and take turns to hold doors open for each other.

Children make independent choices about the activities and experiences they would like to take part in, both indoors and outdoors. They are keen to participate and remain engaged for long periods of time. Children work out the best way to create a canal of water around the edge of the water tray. They thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to be physically active and learn to take risks under the close supervision of staff. Children balance on stacks of tyres and carefully lower themselves inside and climb out. Older children are positive role models for younger children. They invite them to contribute to a large 'Happy Halloween' poster and thank them for helping. Children are happy and content at this club. They sing as they become immersed in their imaginative play.

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

- Staff create a play environment that fully supports children's evolving interests. Staff enthusiastically join in with children's play. They actively listen and respond to children's requests. For example, children ask staff to read them a familiar story, they have a wonderful time acting this out together. Staff's guidance and praise during these activities supports children's confidence and self-esteem.
- Overall, children behave well. Staff provide them with gentle reminders, when required. For instance, to walk around the sofa, rather than climbing over the top of it. Children are independent and responsible individuals. On arrival at the club, they know to hang up their personal belongings and follow a good hygiene routine. They wait patiently for their turn to wash their hands.
- Good partnerships with other professionals, such as children's teachers, are established. The manager, who is also the children's key person, works closely with them to share information and ensure children's needs are well supported. All staff know the children very well and have warm and secure relationships with them. They help children to feel more comfortable by gently rubbing their hands when they become a little chilly from playing outdoors. Children welcome staff's sensitive interactions in their play.
- Staff provide children with a variety of healthy snacks and children have consistent access to fresh fruit and water. Mealtimes are a social occasion where children engage in conversation with their friends. They confidently help staff to

tidy away when they are finished.

- Staff encourage children to express how they are feeling to support their emotional well-being. Through purposeful discussions with children, staff have identified that, due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, children have developed empathy for others. As a result, children wrote positive messages for local residents and helped the manager to display them in the community.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The manager talks with parents at collection times to share information about their child's time at the club and information from school. Parents feel that they and their children have good relationships with staff. They say that their children talk enthusiastically about the activities they have participated in at the club, when at home.
- The club is run by the manager and a dedicated team of staff, who are passionate about providing a high-quality, inclusive environment. The manager frequently meets with staff to evaluate the service they provide and consider any changes. A clear action plan is in place to help inform continuous improvements in the quality of service.
- The manager supports staff to consistently develop their practice. Staff make the most of training opportunities and share good practice. As a result of recent training, staff have an increased understanding of calming methods to help children to understand their emotions. Staff regularly observe each other to identify areas for improvement. Supervision meetings support staff performance.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff carry out daily safety checks on all areas of the club to help ensure that children play in a safe environment. They have a good understanding of safeguarding and are aware of the potential risks that children and their families may face. Staff know the procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. All staff receive regular safeguarding training and are aware of wider safeguarding issues, such as how children can be exposed to extreme or radical views. A robust system is in place to ensure that children are only collected by authorised individuals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY562801
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10194255
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 10
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	61
Name of registered person	Buttercups Childcare Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP538982
Telephone number	07708 657411
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Bar Hill Out of School Club registered in 2018. The club employs four members of staff, two of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The club opens Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 8.45am and 3pm until 6pm during school term time and from 8am until 6pm during school holiday periods.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lorraine Pike

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they like to do in the club and what their favourite activities are.
- The inspector observed activities and the interaction between staff and children.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and the provider to talk about how the club is run and to check that all legal requirements are met.
- The manager and inspector talked about how activities are planned to take account of children's interests and abilities.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to several parents and took account of their views, she also joined staff to collect children from school.

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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