

Dawn until Dusk at Kings Oak



Kings Oak Primary School, Oak Road, BEDFORD, MK42 0HH

Inspection date

4 May 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The highly competent providers and the excellent manager work together very effectively to build a cohesive staff team. All involved are passionate about delivering exceptional out-of-school provision for the children in their care. Staff have frequent opportunities to attend training in-house, externally or online to continue to enhance their superb support for children.
- Children have a wonderful time at the club. They develop very close relationships with staff, including their key person. Staff choose two children each day, one to be the special helper for health and safety and one to be identified as 'truly trusted'. This helps to strengthen children's confidence and self-esteem even more effectively.
- Staff work very closely with parents to provide children with the best possible continuity of care. They provide parents with a wealth of information about their children's time at the club. They make available a wide range of additional information, such as support for victims of domestic violence. Parents speak very highly of the club.
- Staff provide excellent support for children who have special educational needs or disability and those who speak English as an additional language. They work very closely with parents, with the school and with outside agencies to provide the best possible support for these children. For the youngest children, this complements their learning in nursery very effectively.
- Children revel in an exceptionally wide range of activities and free-play opportunities. They are confident and enthusiastic and they move freely between activities indoors and those outside. Staff are fully involved in children's play and provide excellent individual support for each child because they know them extremely well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the strong partnership working with the school to strengthen the exchange of information between the school and the club when parents change their plans but do not inform the club.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the activities indoors and outdoors and the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector talked to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the club manager.
- The inspector held a meeting with the club manager and provider. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the club's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of the staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Val Fane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The owners are constantly reviewing their practice to ensure that the provision continues to be of the highest quality. They work in close partnership with the headteacher of the school to improve the facilities on offer. Current plans are to complete significant improvements to the outdoor area to provide more space for physical play alongside many other activities. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. All staff have a very secure knowledge of the indicators of abuse and the procedures to follow if concerns arise. The designated person for safeguarding takes prompt and effective action if she has concerns about a child. She works closely with the school and with the local authority to help to ensure that children are safeguarded. Staff have regular supervisions which the manager uses effectively to identify any training needs. Children benefit from excellent continuity of care because staff work closely with the school to exchange information about children's needs. There is scope to enhance this even further, so that staff consistently receive prompt and accurate information from the school about last minute changes to children's times of attendance at the club.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children excitedly choose to play with a superb range of toys. New children quickly learn what is available, because staff identify a buddy to help them find their way around the club and learn the routines. Children show very sustained concentration in their play. They thoroughly enjoy an activity where they mix different colours of cornflour paste and use them to make a rainbow. Children use vivid language to describe the original paste as 'like milk' before they add the colouring. The well-qualified staff use an excellent range of questions to extend children's thinking. Children talk confidently about what they think will happen when they put the different colours of cornflour paste into the bag. Staff help children to explore the properties of the mixture. Children watch with great fascination as a blob of the mixture elongates when the member of staff holds it up and lets it fall. Children gain many skills from these activities which they can use at home, in school or in nursery. Staff competently adapt the activities to meet each child's particular needs and provide them with the best possible play experiences while they are at the club.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children form very close relationships with their peers. Older children are very considerate of the younger ones when they are playing together. Children behave extremely well. Staff are excellent role models and children are fully engrossed in their play. Children have excellent opportunities to learn about dental hygiene through special activities. They learn to brush their teeth properly using a dummy model. Staff very skilfully extend children's vocabulary, introducing words, such as bacteria and reinforcing their learning as the activity continues. Children have opportunities to take part in exciting and innovative outdoor activities in Forest School. They use mud and water to create their own muddy face. They develop a very good awareness of their personal safety through these activities. They know that they can only come into the fire circle when invited by an adult. They enthusiastically try to make a spark with the fire steel to light the fire.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477054
Local authority	Bedford Borough
Inspection number	972162
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	3 - 10
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	207
Name of provider	Dawn Until Dusk Ltd
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07913352570

Dawn until Dusk at Kings Oak was registered in 2014. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during school term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.40am and from 3.20pm until 6pm. The club supports children who have special educational needs or disability and children who speak English as an additional language.

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