

Dawn until Dusk Ltd at Harrold Lower School

Harrold Lower School, The Green, Bedford, MK43 7DB



Inspection date	9 February 2017
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- All staff are exceptionally well supported by an effective, knowledgeable and experienced senior management team. Incisive monitoring and evaluation of staff practice and of what is provided for the children, together with ongoing training for staff promotes the provision of the best possible care for the children who attend the club.
- Children take part in a vast range of activities that is fun, engaging and that captures their imaginations and interests.
- Staff carefully plan for the children in partnership with parents and with the host school, in order that the support provided for children's care and play complements what is provided elsewhere.
- Children behave exceptionally well. They respond to the club's ethos of positive behaviour and show compassion for one another and for people in the community. Children are proud to have helped to raise money to support a local children's charity.
- Thorough assessments are undertaken to ensure children can freely play in a safe and secure environment.
- Parents are highly complimentary of the staff and the range of support provided for their children. They have confidence in the staff team and their abilities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the resources in the outdoor area even further to provide the best possible experiences for children who prefer to play outside

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 and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the club.
- The inspector spoke to a number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Denise Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Staff are inspired by the highly effective support and vision of the providers. The management team is rigorous in their pursuit of excellence. They enable staff to grow and develop as the staff train and cascade their knowledge. This results in children being supported and cared for by an enthusiastic and motivated staff team. Safeguarding is effective. All staff have a thorough knowledge of how to protect children and support them to keep themselves safe. The safeguarding of children is given the highest priority and staff continually review their practice to ensure it is of the highest quality. The management team, together with the staff, monitors each other's practice and provide feedback to continually improve. Self-evaluation is highly effective in identifying strengths and planning for the future. The management plans to develop the outdoor area even further, in order to best serve the children who are attending.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children confidently explore the safe, inviting environment as they play or relax on the cosy sofa and talk with staff and their friends. Staff intuitively interact with the children, supporting their play and facilitating their games if needed. Children make gifts for Valentine's Day and add special messages for the recipient. They bake gingerbread men and hearts, smelling the spices and identifying the ingredients as they add them to their mixture. Children enjoy stirring their ingredients and young children climb onto the staff's lap, along with their bowl, for extra support. As it gets dark, children wear high-visibility jackets and have fun as they go outside to explore with torches. Staff take great care as they observe, assess and plan for the children according to their particular interests and abilities. They coordinate this planning with the school to ensure what is offered complements the children's learning during the day.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive in this inclusive, welcoming setting. The highly effective key person approach enables children, including the very young, to fully immerse themselves in the fun activities. These young children confidently seek help, support and cuddles according to their needs after a long day at the breakfast club, school or pre-school. They play harmoniously alongside the older children, who show genuine care as they play their more energetic games. Children learn to take turns and be kind to each other in this home-from-home environment. Parents speak highly of the staff and the excellent quality of care provided for their children. This care is based on the vast amounts of information which is gathered on placement and as the placement progresses. Children learn to keep themselves safe and take care of themselves throughout their play. They take part in interactive activities which promote good oral hygiene. The food provided is nutritionally balanced alongside what is provided in the school. The meals are appetising and exciting for children to eat, for example, they choose from a range of ingredients as they build a hot wrap to eat for tea.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY485105
Local authority	Bedford Borough
Inspection number	1001675
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 - 11
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	50
Name of registered person	Dawn Until Dusk Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902292
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07824442230

Dawn until Dusk Ltd at Harrold Lower School was registered in 2014. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens from 7.30am until 9am and 3.30pm until 6pm, Monday to Friday, term time only, plus occasional inset days.

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