

Dawn until Dusk Ltd at Cotton End



Cotton End Primary School, 37 High Road, Bedford, MK45 3AA

Inspection date	8 March 2018
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

- The providers are deeply committed to providing the highest quality out-of-school care for children. Their enthusiasm and motivation is replicated by the manager and staff, all of whom contribute to continually improve and adapt the club.
- Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the club. They enthusiastically look through a book containing photographs of activities they have previously joined in. They recall what they did, who was there and what they liked best of all.
- Children competently help staff to plan varied, nutritious menus for their tea. Staff are extremely vigilant to ensure that children's dietary requirements are met.
- Children behave very well. Older children help younger ones complete tasks and games. Staff use clear and consistent rules for all the children to follow.
- Staff sensitively settle new children into the club. For example, on occasions staff encourage parents to introduce children to the quieter breakfast club sessions before they access the after-school care. This helps younger children establish strong relationships with their key person.
- Staff use their experience and additional qualifications to help enhance children's experiences. Children visit the local environment and learn to use tools in a safe way, helping them manage appropriate risks for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore more innovative ways to maintain the two-way communication that exists through the already strong partnerships with school and parents.

Inspection activities

- The inspector watched activities inside and outside. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector held meetings with the provider and the manager.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff. She looked at a variety of documents, including induction records, various policies and registers of attendance.
- The inspector took into consideration the views of parents spoken with on the day.

Inspector

Katrina Rodden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The providers follow extremely robust recruitment procedures they have put in place to help ensure that staff are suitable. All staff undertake training to ensure they know how to keep children safe. Their understanding is tested regularly through quizzes and questionnaires. The manager is highly receptive to new ideas and regularly updates and evaluates action plans she and her staff have created. There are comprehensive training opportunities for all staff. The manager identifies additional professional development for individual staff members which helps to continually raise the quality of their practice. Staff have strong relationships with staff from other settings that children attend. They plan to further enhance this to maintain the excellent two-way flow of information in order to complement children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children thrive while they play, relax, experiment and socialise in the club. Children freely move between inside and outdoors. They laugh and squeal as they play a hiding game, waiting in anticipation for their friends and staff to find them. Staff find out from parents what their children are interested in and what they can already do. This helps them prepare activities that trigger children's drive to explore. Staff offer a multitude of resources that children use in a variety of ways. They support children to master new skills, such as threading objects on different thicknesses of wool. Younger children work out that they can use different tools to help them push the bobbly wool through pasta tubes. This helps them strengthen their ability to solve problems for themselves. Staff introduce theme boxes into the club, helping to add variety and different activities for children to experience.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children feel valued and have excellent relationships with one another. They make cards for children who are leaving the club, adding their own personal comments and pictures. Staff skilfully encourage children to maintain a healthy diet and think about the ingredients in condiments and drinks. Staff highlight those with a high sugar content and children discuss what impact sugar has on their body and teeth. Children learn to care for living creatures. They feed the chickens and collect the eggs and they ask questions about the African snails. Staff encourage children to be fully involved in the club. Children wear lanyards, depicting different roles and the responsibilities they undertake. For example, they help staff ensure the outside areas are safe and suitable for children to use at the beginning of each session. Key persons and staff work closely with parents to help ensure that children's care routines and medical needs are met in a consistent way. Children try out a variety of activities to help support their physical development. They work out how to make a structure to form a net for a game of tennis.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY493419
Local authority	Bedford Borough
Inspection number	1030245
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	2 - 11
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	65
Name of registered person	Dawn Until Dusk Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP902292
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07833207070

Dawn until Dusk Ltd at Cotton End registered in 2015. The club employs three members of staff. Two members of staff hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.45am, and from 3.30pm until 6pm.

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