

The Den

Parish Rooms, All Saints Lane, Clevedon, BS21 6AU



Inspection date	27 June 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

- The highly qualified manager has developed an uncompromising and highly successful drive for excellence. For example, staff are expertly supported through a programme of supervision to precisely identify individual training needs to continually raise the quality of practice to an even higher level.
- Children are provided with a superb range of meaningful, challenging and stimulating activities. For example, highly motivated children pick fruit and vegetables from their allotment to expand their understanding of healthy lifestyles.
- Self-evaluation is highly accurate and sharply focused on continuous improvement. Areas for development are regularly reviewed and prioritized to continually improve children's care, learning and play. Staff regularly seek the views from all users of the club and act on suggestions, such as children's opinion on adult-led activities.
- Children are provided with a safe, secure and exceptionally well-resourced environment. They are happy, settled, have developed good friendships and form very close attachments to staff, which positively supports their emotional well-being.
- Partnerships with parents are highly communicative and supportive. Ideas are expertly exchanged to ensure that support for children is continuous.
- Children show excellent levels of independence and social confidence. They play harmoniously together and show high levels of respect and tolerance for others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue the arrangements for gathering sharply focused information from the host school to build further on the already excellent support for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the manager.
- The inspector observed staff and children during play activities.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records, confirmation of staff's suitability, policies and procedures.
- The inspector talked with the children, the manager and staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of parents' views.
- The inspector toured the out-of-school premises.

Inspector

Julie Bright

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The experienced and well-qualified manager is passionate about The Den and has an ambitious vision for the club and the children who attend. She places a strong emphasis on safeguarding. She expertly trains staff to understand that safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. All staff know the procedure to follow should they have a concern about a child. The manager vigilantly keeps up to date to help to keep children safe. The manager is an excellent role model. She and her team undertake extremely comprehensive risk assessments to help to minimise potential hazards and any accidents are dealt with and reported effectively. Staff consistently supervise children. For example, they follow very robust procedures in place for the safe and seamless movement of children from school to the club. All staff have a current paediatric first-aid certificate. Staff work very closely with the host school and they are now considering how they can use information about children to provide even better support for each child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Staff are deployed exceptionally well so that children taking part in all activities are engaged and challenged. Children are active learners as staff provide activities that encourage them to be inquisitive. Staff highly skilfully weave mathematical language into everyday activities, for example, some children explore and investigate quantities of ingredients to make slime. Other children extend their language skills superbly as they describe and guess what is hidden in the sock. Staff constantly think of new ideas to help children do things for themselves. For example children make contributions to the planning of activities. Children are developing excellent social skills as they share and patiently take turns. Children learn about the wider community during circle time. They greet each other using worldwide languages, such as Sudanese and Welsh. Parents comment that staff are warm and sensitive to children's individual needs, and that their children are very happy to attend.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Staff are calm and caring. They communicate very respectfully with children and each other, creating a positive environment. They take time to listen to the children and show an interest in what they have been doing both at school and at home. Older children listen intently and are highly responsive to adults and each other. Staff are exemplary role models to children. They are patient and consistently use praise and encouragement. Children are supported in managing their behaviour exceptionally well, for example, they help to devise appropriate rules for the club. Older children show high levels of tolerance and respect for younger ones and help to support their play. Children are enthusiastic, highly motivated, polite and well-mannered, and they behave extremely well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY488301
Local authority	North Somerset
Inspection number	1014624
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	4 - 11
Total number of places	16
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Anna Mary Griffin
Registered person unique reference number	RP909211
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	07519897202

The Den registered in 2015 in Clevedon. It employs four members of childcare staff who hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The manager has qualified teacher status. The club opens during term time, Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 9am; from 3.10pm to 6pm, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; and from 3.10pm to 5.30pm on Wednesday.

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