

# NRG Associates UK Ltd (Trading as) Astbury Merekats Out of School Club



Astbury St. Marys Church of England Primary School, School Lane, Astbury,  
CONGLETON, Cheshire, CW12 4RG

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Inspection date</b>   | 3 November 2016  |
| Previous inspection date | 10 December 2012 |

| <b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b> | <b>This inspection:</b> | <b>Good</b>    | <b>2</b> |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|----------|
|   | Previous inspection:    | Good           | 2        |
| Effectiveness of the leadership and management                |                         | Good           | 2        |
| Quality of teaching, learning and assessment                  |                         | Good           | 2        |
| Personal development, behaviour and welfare                   |                         | Good           | 2        |
| Outcomes for children   |                         | Not applicable |          |

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Staff give high priority to keeping children safe. They carry out regular risk assessments to identify and remove potential hazards.
- Children arrive happily at the club and are eager to spend time with their friends. They are greeted warmly and enthusiastically by the friendly staff, with whom they develop strong attachments.
- The manager has an effective programme of supervision and professional development for staff. This has a positive impact as it helps to keep staff's knowledge up to date and refresh their skills.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not consistently give children enough opportunities to contribute to deciding which activities will be offered at the club each day. Activities and resources provided are planned and set out by staff prior to children arriving at the club.
- Children do not always have the time and freedom to continue with an activity, because resources and activities are packed away when daily routines, such as snack time take place.

## **What the setting needs to do to improve further**

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

- provide children with more opportunities to be involved in planning the activities that take place in the club
- think of ways to enable children to continue to engage in their own interests when daily routines take place should they wish to do so.

### **Inspection activities**

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor play area.
- The inspector held meetings with the registered person and the manager. She spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's records, policies and procedures, the club's self-evaluation and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of staff's suitability, qualifications and training.
- The inspector spoke to a selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

### **Inspector**

Karen Laycock

## Inspection findings

### Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. There are robust recruitment and induction procedures in place that help ensure all staff are suitable to work with children, underpinning the good provision for children's welfare. Staff and managers demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the procedures for reporting any safeguarding concerns about children to the relevant agencies. Staff are committed to ensuring children's safety. They supervise them well at all times. Parents speak highly of the club staff and say they appreciate the flexible care they provide. They comment that their children look forward to attending and that staff know their children well and provide a warm and welcoming environment. The manager has effective systems in place to support staff to extend their skills and knowledge. The dedicated manager, along with her supportive staff team, uses self-evaluation well to identify areas for improvement and to maintain good standards. Parents are involved in the process. They are asked which areas of the provision they feel could be developed further.

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff have strong partnerships with the host school. They have regular discussions with the school staff to find out about children's achievements. They use the information they gain to plan activities which complement what the children are learning at school. Staff join in children's play and provide support and suggestions to keep them engaged. For example, they give children ideas about the different structures they can build when they play with construction toys.

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Staff encourage children to be independent. For example, children take responsibility for hanging up their coat and bags when they arrive at the club. Staff help children to learn how to keep themselves safe from harm. Children know they must be accompanied by a member of staff when using different areas of the school premises. Children are supported to use effective hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before eating. Children learn to respect other's opinions and ideas. They take turns to talk about their day, listening politely when others speak. Staff are kind and attentive towards children. They offer praise and encouragement which help to boost their confidence and fosters a 'have a go' attitude. Staff provide clear guidance about what is acceptable behaviour. Children behave well. They are kind to each other and share toys amicably. They patiently wait their turn when playing games. Children have a good knowledge of the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. They have opportunities every day for physical exercise and they follow good hygiene practices. Children enjoy their time outdoors, where they have plenty of space to be physically active.

## Setting details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                   | EY433190  |
| <b>Local authority</b>                           | Cheshire East   |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                         | 1059943   |
| <b>Type of provision</b>                         | Out of school provision   |
| <b>Day care type</b>                             | Childcare - Non-Domestic  |
| <b>Registers</b>                                 | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Age range of children</b>                     | 4 - 11  |
| <b>Total number of places</b>                    | 24  |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                | 78  |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                 | NRG Associates UK Limited   |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b> | RP530948  |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>               | 10 December 2012  |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                          | 07748 699352  |

NRG Associates UK Ltd (Trading as) Astbury Merecats Out of School Club was registered in 2011. The club employs six members of childcare staff. Of these, three hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one with early years professional status. The club opens from Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 8.55am and 3pm until 6pm during term time. During the school holidays the club opens from 7.30am until 6pm.

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