

# Inspection of 4kidz Childcare Ltd @ Odyssey

Old Knebworth Lane, Stevenage SG2 8DU

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Inspection date: 4 November 2019

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
The quality of education	<b>Good</b>
Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Good</b>
Personal development	<b>Good</b>
Leadership and management	<b>Good</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is good

Staff know the children well and develop warm and caring relationships with them. They are kind and reassuring. Children cuddle up to staff when they need comfort. Children are happy; they confidently talk to authorised visitors and invite them to join in with their play. Younger children actively explore the outdoor area and are closely supported by staff as they explore the sandpit and resources. Staff are attentive and ensure that all children are engaged in their play. Their interactions with babies are enjoyable and exciting. Staff communicate well with children in a variety of ways. For example, they role model language well, repeat key words, use visual cues and have introduced some signing. Children who speak English as an additional language are supported well here.

Children behave well. They listen closely to staff and are kind to their friends. For example, they help their friends to spread cream cheese onto crackers. Children are happy to share toys with their friends and enjoy playing together. They enjoy a broad range of experiences. Parents comment positively about recent and regular nature walks and trips to the library and park.

## What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Staff follow children's interests and provide a strong variety of suitably challenging activities. Children are confident and motivated learners. They use magnifying glasses to search for worms in the garden. They share out tools and dig with spades as they work together to look for worms. Children learn how to use tools appropriately, manage risk and develop their physical skills.
- Staff confidently explain how they help children to meet their next steps in learning. They regularly share and review this information with parents. Partnerships with parents are strong.
- As a result of the manager's monitoring of groups of children, there is a keen focus on developing children's literacy skills. Younger children enjoy making marks with chalk outside and benefit from frequent and enjoyable opportunities to join in with rhymes and action songs. As children explore the inviting book area, staff intuitively encourage and read to them. Older children enjoy regular stories that staff read in an engaging manner. Children enjoy joining in with key phrases and talk about the story. Staff understand how to develop children's skills over time.
- Children benefit from the manager and staff's effective working relationships with external professionals. Staff understand how to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They are considerate and inclusive in their practice. For example, equipment is positioned thoughtfully to promote all children to be able to join in activities and play with their friends. Children make strong progress over time from their starting points and gather the skills

they will need for the next stage in their learning, or school.

- Children understand the daily routines and staff's consistent behaviour expectations. Staff provide regular opportunities for children to talk about their feelings with their friends. Children learn to understand and respect their own feelings and the feelings and needs of others. They develop their personal, social and emotional skills. Staff use a variety of ways to help children feel proud of their attempts and achievements. For example, staff praise children in a meaningful manner. Staff ensure children's care and emotional needs are met. Children are emotionally secure and settled.
- The highly qualified and experienced manager is a good role model. She mentors staff effectively with a focus on improving the quality of teaching and outcomes for children. Staff have regular supervision meetings to support their professional development. They comment that they feel they can go to the manager for support.
- Staff provide children with opportunities to explore different materials. Children enjoy making firework pictures using natural resources and mixing colours. At times staff do not offer children enough opportunities to talk about their home experiences, in order to help develop their understanding of the world around them even further.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The manager and owner ensure that staff are suitably vetted during the recruitment process. For example, they check staff's references carefully. Staff complete thorough inductions promptly. They are aware of their responsibilities to protect children and quickly develop an understanding of the policies and procedures used to support children's safety. The manager and staff complete regular training to ensure their child protection knowledge remains up to date. They have a strong understanding of how to identify any causes for concern and are clear on the action to take to protect children.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide children with more opportunities to talk about their home experiences and build on their understanding of the world around them.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY546511
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10100290
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Full day care
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 to 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	21
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	30
<b>Name of registered person</b>	4kidz Childcare Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP546510
<b>Telephone number</b>	07761083701
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

4kidz Childcare Ltd @ Odyssey registered in 2017. It operates all year round, on Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm. The setting employs eight members of childcare staff, five of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The setting receives funding to offer free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Becky Williams

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The manager and inspector carried out a joint observation.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and spoke to the owner. She looked at relevant documents and evidence of the suitability of staff working at the setting.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children when suitable during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a small number of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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