

Inspection of West Hill Life Ltd

Horton Kirby C of E Primary School, Horton Road, Horton Kirby, DARTFORD DA4 9BN

Inspection date: 16 June 2021

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the club. They arrive with enthusiasm, excitement and anticipation. The atmosphere is enjoyable, lively and busy. Children make friends easily. They learn to respect each other and gain new skills as they try different activities. Staff fully appreciate children's efforts. They encourage them to keep trying so that children always succeed and feel proud of themselves. For example, the 'raffle ticket' system is a good incentive to help children try new things. Children delight in collecting raffle tickets from staff each time they try something new. They wait excitedly to see who holds the most tickets at the end of the term and wins the prize. Children feel safe at the club. They know the staff well and say that they are confident to approach staff if they need help, comfort or reassurance.

Children behave well. At present, children cannot mix freely with other age groups due to the restrictions of social distancing. However, staff manage this well. They listen to children's ideas and offer activities and games they know will interest the children. The club is managed well. Staff are highly motivated. They work hard to reflect continually on their practice and make constant improvements.

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

- Children's views are actively listened to and welcomed. Staff request their feedback. They fully involve children in the club's decision-making process when planning new ideas and activities. For example, children said that they wanted more opportunities to watch films and take part in dance activities, so staff provided these.
- Staff support children's healthy development well. All meals and snacks are nourishing and nutritious. Children learn about the importance of eating well. They take part in cookery activities. For example, they make pizzas and choose their own healthy toppings. Children enjoy making fruit kebabs and confidently name the different fruits they use.
- The club's leaders are fully committed to providing a high standard of provision. They make sure staff are appropriately trained to support each child's needs. For example, following the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, staff have noted that some children need more support in managing their feelings and emotional well-being. Two staff members completed a course to help them support children's mental health. This has improved their understanding of how to recognise when some children may need more help.
- Staff actively encourage each child to feel part of the group. They value the contribution every child makes. For example, every evening each child, if they wish to, offers a 'Fact of the Day'. Children share information about something

new they have learned at school that day. This helps every child to feel listened to.

- Children's unique qualities are respected. Staff work hard to make sure they adapt the club's provision to take account of each child. For example, when necessary, staff complete specialist training to support the care needs of individual children.
- Club staff and school staff work well together. They readily share information each day to make sure children's health and welfare needs are clearly understood.
- The club provides a clean, spacious and well-organised environment. Children have plenty of space to move around safely, inside and outside. Full use is made of the school grounds. This enables children to enjoy active games and sports as well as quieter activities, depending on each child's preferences. Staff successfully provide a homely environment where children can unwind after their busy day at school.
- Younger children settle into the club well. Teaching staff, parents and club staff work together to make sure all information about a child's character, personality, likes and dislikes is fully understood.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff provide a safe and welcoming environment. There are stringent procedures to make sure unauthorised adults are not permitted onto the school grounds. Supervision levels are good and staff keep an accurate record of children's attendance. Staff work closely with teachers and school staff. They make sure any child who does not arrive at the club as expected is safe and is accounted for. Robust checks are completed when new staff join the club to make sure they are suitable to work with children. Staff complete regular safeguarding training. They fully understand what action they need to take if they have concerns about a child's welfare.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551103
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10130781
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	4 to 11
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	94
Name of registered person	West Hill Life Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP902482
Telephone number	01322 278677
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

West Hill Life Ltd is an organisation that provides out-of-school provision in a number of schools in Kent. This setting operates from Kirby Horton Church of England Primary School, in the village of Kirby Horton, Kent. It offers both before- and after-school provision. The setting opens from 7.30am to 8.50am and from 3.15pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, during term time only.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Caswell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector spoke to the staff and asked them how they organise the club and how they keep children safe.
- Children told the inspector what they most enjoy doing at the club.
- The provider talked to the inspector about the club's safeguarding arrangements and how they meet all legal requirements.

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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