

Inspection of 4 Community Trust

63A Crosswells Road, Oldbury, West Midlands B68 8HH

Inspection date: 24 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 settle quickly when they arrive at the club and are happy to see staff. They enjoy a busy, purposeful time at the club, and it offers them a secure space to unwind after their day at school. Children of different ages enjoy playing games together. Those with special educational needs and/or disabilities are supported well and are fully included in all activities. Staff have made adaptations to resources and procedures to keep children safe during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic and explain these to children. Children develop a firm understanding of the importance of good hygiene. They follow clear handwashing routines when they arrive at the setting and at appropriate times throughout the session.

Children are happy and have fun playing cooperatively with their friends. Staff consider children's interests and ideas when planning activities and provide a good consistency of care and learning. Children choose from a good range of activities on offer, both indoors and outdoors. They build on knowledge that they are learning in school. For example, children learn about the Olympic Games and the flags of different countries, and eagerly take part in an egg and spoon race. Staff complement the experiences children have and support their understanding of the wider world. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the club has reviewed its arrangements for collecting children to reduce contact. Parents are supportive of the changes and share very positive feedback about the club.

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

- Staff are positive role models for the children and understand how to support their emotional well-being by nurturing them so that they grow in confidence. There are clear routines in place and high expectations for children's behaviour. Children understand the simple club rules and adhere to these each day. Any minor disagreements are quickly resolved and children play together well, showing care and respect for each other.
- Staff work well with parents. Parents tell staff about their child's likes, dislikes and interests when they start at the club. Staff use this information to plan activities that interest and challenge children. They share information about what children have been doing and what activities they have taken part in. Parents speak highly about how their children benefit from attending the club. They appreciate the care shown to children by the club's staff team. Staff liaise with local schools daily and share relevant information with parents. They find out what children are learning at school and incorporate this into activities. This helps to ensure continuity between schools and the club.
- Staff engage with children during meaningful conversations, listening to their views and opinions. Children are confident communicators. They form strong

friendships and enjoy one another's company as they take part in activities such as games, crafts and sports. This helps children to build on their social, physical and creative skills. Children talk about the favourite activities they enjoy. They demonstrate that they feel safe and secure at the club.

- Once children have settled in, staff observe them in order to make assessments on what they already know and can do. Staff support children to practise the skills they are developing in school. Some children choose to draw, write and colour in. Children understand the importance of taking turns and sharing.
- Children's health needs are met well. A nutritious range of snacks are provided. Staff manage mealtimes well to ensure good hygienic practices are followed in order to minimise the spread of infection. Some activities take place outside to enable children to benefit from fresh air and exercise after their day at school. Children learn new skills when playing basketball as staff encourage them to throw overarm and use both hands to catch a ball.
- The provider shows a commitment to the continued improvement of the setting. Policies and procedures reflect the ethos of care that is in place within the club. There are secure systems for recruitment, induction and supervision of staff to ensure their ongoing suitability. Staff complete induction and mandatory training to improve their personal effectiveness. There are systems in place to monitor practice effectively, and all members of staff have regular appraisals with the provider. Staff are encouraged to access further training to develop their skills. The well-being of staff is of high importance and support is provided if needed.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The provider has a good understanding of her responsibility to raise concerns about children's welfare. She implements procedures effectively to help keep children safe and secure. Staff complete training to keep their child protection knowledge up to date. Consequently, they have a secure knowledge of safeguarding. Staff know the signs and symptoms of abuse and who to report concerns to. The provider holds regular meetings to ensure staff's safeguarding knowledge is always kept updated. Risk assessments are used to make sure all areas of the premises are safe. The provider follows safer recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff and directors are suitable to work with children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2514820
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	10131014
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	117
Name of registered person	4 Community Trust Community Interest Company
Registered person unique reference number	2514819
Telephone number	07365526220
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

4 Community Trust registered in 2019. The club employs seven members of childcare staff. Of these, five hold relevant qualifications at level 2 and level 3, and one has qualified teacher status. The club opens from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions are from 7.30am until 8.50am and 3pm until 6pm. The holiday club operates from 7.30am until 6pm during school holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the 2020-21 COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector and the provider completed a learning walk across all areas of the setting to understand how the early years provision is organised.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the club manager.
- The inspector held discussions with staff, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the club's documents. This included evidence of staff suitability and training.
- A meeting was held between the inspector, the provider and the club manager.

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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