

Inspection of Little Hands Adventure Club

Holyrood Catholic Primary School, Greenbank Road, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 4FS

Inspection date:

17 November 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 arrive happily at the club and are keen to engage in activities straight away. They enjoy drawing pictures, which they do with precision and skill. Children are confident and sociable; they proudly show visitors what they have drawn. Children describe their pictures, in detail, as they point out the different aspects of their drawings. They have many play opportunities, such as to engage in art and craft activities, complete puzzles or to look at books. Children engage in self-chosen play very well and their behaviour is good.

Children are encouraged to develop healthy lifestyles. Staff provide many opportunities for children to be outside. They are very active in their play, such as when engaging in football games and using the school's obstacle course. Children sit together to eat tea and engage in boisterous, social conversations. Children talk positively about the club; they report that staff look after them well and help them to find activities to do. Children are keen to find out what the inspection is about. They report they feel safe and want the club to continue.

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

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, the provider has worked closely with the host school on procedures to keep children safe. For example, where school groups have had to isolate, extra space has been provided to enable children to attend the club. The provider talks about how they have introduced more physical activities to enable children to be active. This has had a positive impact on children's physical health, well-being and behaviour.
- Staff get to know children well and listen to their views. They provide resources of toys that they know are of interest to children. This helps children to feel valued and respected.
- The provider has strong recruitment procedures in place. This helps to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. Robust induction procedures enable new staff to swiftly gain a good understanding of safeguarding and health and safety procedures.
- Children are keen to practise skills they learn at school. They show good awareness of space and shape as they fit the train track together. Children are excited to show how they can write their own, and other's names.
- Parents speak positively about the club and staff. They say their children are very happy to attend and bring lots of pictures and models home that they have enjoyed making. Parents feel children are safe at the club.
- Creative activities are hugely popular with the children. They concentrate extremely well as they paint models and decorate bags. Children think about pattern and detail as they choose what colours to use. Staff provide recycled

materials, such as wooden blocks. Children enjoy drawing pictures of their favourite superheroes on them.

- Staff collect children from their classrooms each day. This gives them opportunities to talk to children's teachers. The provider reports partnership working with the school is strong.
- The provider and staff evaluate the service they provide and look for ways to improve. Through the pandemic, for example, they stopped using paper methods of communication with parents. The provider reports that using electronic methods of communication has been very successful and will now be embedded into their ongoing practice.
- Staff are deployed effectively and carry out risk assessments to ensure children play in a safe environment. They make checks on the playground to make sure there are no hazards that will impact on children's play outdoors. Staff use the setting's mobile phones to communicate from inside to outside, as the play area is a way from the club's main room.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The provider and staff understand how to recognise signs of abuse and other safeguarding concerns about children. They know how to swiftly make referrals both within the setting and to relevant agencies. Staff undertake training to help them to gain further knowledge and skills, such as on signs of extremist behaviour. The staff proactively implement the health and safety procedures into their practice. For example, they immediately phone parents to make sure children are safe if they do not turn up when expected.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2496411
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10191200
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	50
Number of children on roll	84
Name of registered person	Little Hands Adventure Club Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP562467
Telephone number	07525001964
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Little Hands Adventure Club registered in 2018. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, four hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 and 3. The club offers a breakfast session from 7am until 8.45am, and an after-school session from 3pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, term time only.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jill Hardaker

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector took a tour of the club with the provider. They talked about how the club is organised and discussed the play opportunities they provide for children.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions during activities indoors and outside between the staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to a sample of children, staff and parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider throughout the session. A sample of records, including safeguarding policies and procedures and staff suitability records were seen by the inspector.

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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