

Inspection of Energy Kidz Out of School Club - Willowbank

Willowbank Junior School, Duffield Road, Reading RG5 4RW

Inspection date:

25 February 2022

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children arrive at the club happy and are excited to take part in the activities on offer. They are well supported by staff, who are warm and welcoming and ensure they get to know them well. This helps children settle quickly and feel safe and secure.

Children are given the independence to choose what they would like to do. They have access to a wide variety of toys and games. Staff set children challenges to make large domino runs with wooden blocks. They work together to achieve this and show delight in watching them tumble down. Children build structures to look like Stonehenge and staff help them find out facts about the famous landmark. Children are encouraged to be curious and find out about the world around them.

Children's physical development is promoted effectively. They are given plenty of time and space to be active. They balance and climb on the outdoor play equipment and play games with hoops and balls. Staff join in and are good role models. Older children help the younger children cross a wobbly bridge. They give them lots of praise when they achieve this. Children are kind and considerate towards each other and demonstrate good manners.

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

- Leaders set a theme for the club. This term the club staff are teaching children about random acts of kindness. For example, children draw pictures of people being kind to one another and label these with descriptive words. Staff talk to them about words that can be used to describe themselves and others in a positive manner, such as 'caring' and 'encouraging'.
- Children behave well. They understand what is expected of them. Children take turns and are encouraged to share. Younger children negotiate as to who will use which tool when using screws to put together 3D puzzles. They listen to one another and work out how they will each get a turn to use the drill. Children are given the space to work together and solve problems for themselves.
- Staff take time during the morning register to encourage children to talk about themselves and their interests. All children have confidence to tell the group about their favourite things and their families. Staff take time to ask children questions and show interest in finding out about them. Children go on to have meaningful conversations with each other about their similarities and differences. This encourages them to form new friendships and develop in confidence.
- Staff support children to make healthy choices. They ensure parents have access to information about healthy food to include in lunch boxes. They provide

healthy options at snack time and ensure children have regular drinks of water throughout the day. Staff ensure children wash their hands before eating and follow good hygiene routines.

- Parents express how happy they are with the club. They are given information about the activities on offer and are informed about their child's day. Leaders ensure younger children have a key person who gets to know the child well. They gather information about the child's needs and interests to best support them during their time at the club.
- Staff report that they are supported well by the leadership team. They are given access to regular training to enhance their skills and knowledge. Leaders understand the importance of ensuring there is support in place for staff's well-being. They reward and praise staff across the company for their achievements. Leaders celebrate and share good practice to help develop and encourage the standards of their whole workforce.
- Leaders are committed to evaluating the provision to ensure they are constantly making improvements. They gather feedback from parents and children and use this to make plans and strengthen practice. Senior managers regularly visit the club to monitor the provision and work with the club leader to bring in new ideas.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff understand their role in safeguarding children. They are aware of the local safeguarding partnership's procedures. Staff know how to identify signs that children may be at risk of abuse. They understand procedures for recording and reporting concerns, including how to report concerns about adults working with children. The company follows robust recruitment processes and ensures the ongoing suitability of staff. All staff have paediatric first-aid training and know what to do in the event of a serious accident. Children are encouraged to manage their own risk. For example, when working out how to get across the wooden stumps on the obstacle course.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY477574
Local authority	Wokingham
Inspection number	10213734
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	30
Number of children on roll	280
Name of registered person	Energy Kidz Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901001
Telephone number	07970499197
Date of previous inspection	4 August 2016

Information about this early years setting

Energy Kidz Out of School Club - Willowbank operates from Willowbank Junior School in Reading, registered in 2014 and is run by Energy Kidz Ltd. It offers a breakfast and after-school club for junior school children and a holiday club for children aged 4 to 11 years. The after-school club operates five days a week from 3.20pm to 6pm, term time only. The holiday club operates each holiday from 8am until 5.30pm. There are five members of staff who work with children, they all hold the relevant qualifications required.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Alice M Roberts

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 viewed the club and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a club activity with a manager.
- The inspector met with a senior manager to talk about how the club is run and to check that all legal requirements are met.
- Parents and children shared their views of the club with the inspector.
- The manager and inspector talked about how activities are planned to take account of children's interests and abilities.

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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