

# Inspection of Fusion Short Breaks

Croxteth Childrens Centre, Parkstile Lane, Liverpool, Lancashire L11 0BQ

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Inspection date:

25 February 2022

**The quality and  
standards of early  
years provision**

**This  
inspection**

**Met**

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Previous  
inspection

Not applicable

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

### **This provision meets requirements**

Children are well cared for in this highly inclusive setting. The experienced staff work closely with parents to make sure they know all the children well, and understand how to meet their unique needs. Children are given as much time as they need to settle into nursery. Children have formed close relationships with the staff, which supports them to feel safe and secure. Children arrive happy and eager to play. Staff instinctively know what support and encouragement each child needs. As a result, children are enthusiastic to learn and keep trying.

Children benefit from a range of specialist indoor play equipment, such as ropes, ladders and trampolines. This helps to support children's physical skills, balance and coordination. Children enjoy a wide range of sensory experiences. For example, some children investigate the textures of different cereals through play, while others explore lights and sounds in the calm of the sensory room. This helps to support children's emotional well-being.

The setting remained open throughout the COVID -19 pandemic. The leadership team made effective changes to their service and made additional sessions available, so that children could continue to attend. This helped to provide children with consistency of care and foster a sense of belonging.

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

- Children's interests are followed and their preferences are valued. Staff have high expectations of all children. They offer a wide range of activities and experiences that enable all children to participate. As a result, children are eager to join in and make good progress.
- Children communicate confidently with adults and peers. Staff are aware of children's individual communication methods and intuitively respond to children's needs and wants. For example, staff use short sentences and sign language to speak with children.
- Staff manage children's behaviours skilfully. They help children to identify their feelings and are able to take preventative steps to help children manage their emotions. For example, staff are aware of which children respond better to a highly physical environment and those who are more comfortable with a quieter space.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptional. Parents are actively included in the setting and their opinions are highly valued. Parents are provided with regular feedback forms and asked for their ideas on how the setting could be further improved. For example, as a priority for improvement, parents have raised funds for outdoor equipment that will benefit all children. Parents praise the setting

and comment that staff go above and beyond to meet the needs of the whole family.

- The leadership team works well with other professionals. They actively engage with schools and use the information gathered to inform children's individual learning goals. They work closely with health professionals to support their understanding of children's medical needs and care plans. This means that children's health needs are consistently met.
- Staff are well qualified for their roles. They work well together and benefit from regular supervisions, appraisals and team meetings. Leaders ensure that, prior to each session, staff are briefed on changes to children's individual needs and family circumstances. This provides opportunities to discuss key issues and share good practice. Staff access a range of training opportunities to help develop their knowledge further.
- Children's dietary and medical needs are met very well. Staff receive specialist training and are flexible in meeting children's needs. They take into account their individual care needs and are respectful of preferences.
- Children are able to choose what they would like to do from a wide variety of resources. They are confident to move independently from one activity to another and return to staff for reassurance when needed.
- Children are actively involved in their local communities. They enjoy outings in the local area, for example, to the Liverpool museums, nearby beach or to the local farm. Children help to plan special events for parents, friends and neighbours. This gives children a sense of belonging and provides opportunities to build on children's social skills.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff are aware of their responsibility to keep children safe. They are clear in the actions they would take should they have concerns over the conduct of a colleague or for the welfare of a child. Staff are well trained to meet the many complex needs of individual children and have regular opportunities to participate in training and refresh their safeguarding knowledge. Robust policies and procedures underpin the setting's good practice. Regular risk assessments ensure that the premises are well maintained and secure. Many staff hold paediatric first-aid certificates and are qualified to administer first aid. This helps to keep children safe in the event of an accident.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY555678
<b>Local authority</b>	Liverpool
<b>Inspection number</b>	10174613
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Out-of-school day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	3 to 18
<b>Total number of places</b>	60
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	430
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Liverpool City Council
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP905374
<b>Telephone number</b>	0151 233 3621
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Fusion Short Breaks was registered in 2018, and is managed by Liverpool City Council. The setting employs 28 members of staff. Of these, 19 hold appropriate qualifications ranging from level 3 to level 6. The setting is open Monday and Tuesday 3pm until 6pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 4.30pm until 7.30pm and every Saturday from 9.15am until 12.15pm and 1.15pm to 4.15pm. The setting specifically supports children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Kerry Maddock

## 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 manager and inspector completed a learning walk together of all areas of the setting and discussed how children's individual needs are met.
- Parents spoke to the inspector and shared their views of the setting through written feedback.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- The inspector interacted with children and spoke to staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

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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