

Inspection of Stay & Play @ New Horizons

New Horizons Childrens Academy, Park Crescent, Chatham, Kent ME4 6NT

Inspection date: 4 May 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

All children are excited to arrive at the club. They are settled, confident and happy. Children are independent. They choose their own play and complete their own tasks. Children are eager to join in with the motivating and interesting play experiences that staff carefully plan for them. For example, they enjoy talking about the upcoming jubilee celebrations for the queen. They then go on to create soldier puppets using a variety of materials. Children enjoy military role play, where they march and salute each other. They are polite and behave well and know what is expected of them. Children are kind to each other. For instance, they happily congratulate each other as they win games.

Children gain a secure understanding about the importance of healthy lifestyles. For example, they talk about healthy and unhealthy foods at snack time. They learn about the different food groups and the benefits of them on their bodies. Children have a wide range of physical play opportunities. For example, they confidently use equipment, such as climbing walls, rope swings and hanging bars. Children play well as part of a team and enjoy group games, this includes, basketball, football and badminton.

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

- All staff establish secure and trusting relationships with children. They get to know their individual personalities well. This includes their likes and dislikes. This helps staff plan activities that they know children will enjoy. Staff implement children's ideas into the club's activity plans. This helps children to feel valued and listened to. Children have a good sense of belonging and positive levels of self-esteem. They enjoy the company of staff. For example, they are excited to tell staff news that is important to them.
- The manager and staff evaluate their practice together effectively. At the end of each day, they discuss how well they feel children engaged in their experiences at the club. They use their findings to support their future practice. The manager highlights she would like to introduce more games that will engage and challenge the more capable children even further.
- All staff attend regular training. For example, they recently learned about the different ways that they can encourage children to be creative and use their imagination. As a result, children have access to a wide range of role-play resources. They enjoy becoming a nurse and police officer and children create interesting items, such as wind chimes.
- All staff build and maintain positive partnerships with the teachers at the school that children attend. Staff find out about the children's time at school when they collect them. Staff talk to children about their day and this helps successfully

provide them with a positive link between the school and club.

- The manager and staff establish positive relationships with parents. They communicate with them at the end of each day. They pass on any information from teachers about their children's time at school. Staff keep parents fully informed and involved. For instance, they routinely share photos of what their children have enjoyed doing at the club.
- Staff encourage children to learn how to keep themselves and others safe. For instance, they confidently highlight to staff any potential risks, such as slip and trip hazards. Children know how to maturely enjoy challenging experiences. This includes safely using tools during woodwork activities and roasting marshmallows on a barbecue.
- Children are confident to communicate their thoughts and suggestions. For instance, they speak fluently and listen to each other's ideas as they play together. Children are keen to become different characters and make up their own stories to share with their friends.
- All staff support children to develop a good knowledge and understanding of other peoples' similarities and differences outside of their own communities. Children learn about different festivals celebrated from around the world. For instance, they make tartan bracelets as they learn about Burn's Night and make shamrock key rings as they talk about St Patrick's day.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff, including the manager, have a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding and child protection. This includes knowing what signs and symptoms of abuse would perhaps highlight a cause for concern. They know who to contact to seek advice and how to raise and follow up any potential concerns. Staff keep their safeguarding knowledge up to date. For example, they attend regular training. Staff complete thorough risk assessments to help keep everyone at the club safe. This includes knowing how to help minimise the risk of COVID 19. For example, children independently follow thorough hygiene practices. Staff know how to swiftly administer first aid and manage any accidents at the setting appropriately.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497930
Local authority	Medway
Inspection number	10228107
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	60
Number of children on roll	113
Name of registered person	Rachel Trout & Cheryl Crow Partnership
Registered person unique reference number	RP901313
Telephone number	07402 946 597
Date of previous inspection	22 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

Stay & Play @ New Horizons registered in 2016. It is an out-of-school provision located in the grounds of New Horizons Childrens Academy, Chatham in Kent. The setting is open Monday to Friday from 3pm to 6pm, term time only. The setting employs six members of staff, two of whom hold relevant early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kelly Hawkins

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 carried out a learning walk with the nominated individual and manager. The inspector assessed the impact of the quality of staff interactions and the play opportunities they provide children.
- The inspector viewed the indoor and outdoor environments.
- Written documentation was reviewed. This included safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures.
- The inspector and nominated individual carried out a joint observation on snack time.
- At convenient times during the inspection, the inspector spoke to the nominated individual, manager, children, parents and staff and considered their views.

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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