

Inspection of Energy Kidz Out Of School Club - The Orchard Wd24

Orchard Cp School, Gammons Lane, Watford, Hertfordshire WD24 5JW

Inspection date:

26 May 2022

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Not met (with actions)

Previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Staff's knowledge of safeguarding is weak, which compromises children's welfare. That said, children are happy and enjoy attending the club. Managers and staff know the children well. They ensure that activities available support children's interests. Those children who come from another school to attend the club arrive eagerly and settle in quickly with their friends. As children arrive, they sit down together for snack time. The children talk to each other and discuss how their day has been. Staff join in, helping to develop children's understanding of taking turns in conversation.

Children behave well and they are clear about the staff's expectations of them. Children concentrate at activities for long periods of time and staff interact positively with them. Children are motivated to play and enjoy spending time out in the playground area. Once in the playground, children have access to large play equipment. They jump on the large tyres and use a variety of ways to move to the next one. Older children help younger children to work out which way to go. This helps to develop children's confidence.

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

- The staff at the club have received appropriate child protection training. However, they do not have a good safeguarding knowledge. They are unsure of the relevant agencies that they must report concerns to. They are not always able to access the designated safeguarding lead for support and guidance. This means children's welfare cannot be assured.
- Children have access to a range of creative activities. Younger children quickly become engaged in the drawing activities. Children work together to draw large pictures and then colour them in together. Children take pride in taking these home to show their parents. A wall display of creations gives children a real sense of belonging in the club.
- Staff are deployed effectively across the club. They use walkie-talkies to liaise with each other when they are indoors or outside. When outdoors on the playground, staff separate out across the area to ensure all children are visible. Children enjoy having freedom to run around and climb, knowing an adult is close by.
- Managers and staff promote children's independence. Children access the bathroom independently. They know the importance of washing their hands and being clean. Children can choose what they want for their snack. Children take responsibility for their own belongings and know where they need to put them when they arrive at the club.
- Staff have good knowledge of children and their interests. Staff plan the room

effectively to ensure there are activities available for all children. However, staff do not have an adequate knowledge of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They do not access information shared by other professionals to meet children's individual needs. Therefore, adequate adaptations are not made to support these children while at the club.

- Parents say they are very happy with their choice of club. They know their children enjoy their time here as they talk about it at home. Parents feel they receive an adequate transfer of information from their child's school through the club. Children enjoy showing parents their art creations, which parents feel is a real strength of the club. They say the staff team are 'an asset to the community'.
- Managers have positive relationships with the staff, who say they feel they are well supported. Staff have a good induction when they first start and complete training regularly. Managers say that they do not feel that the provider supports them with adequate training for their managerial role. Staff supervision meetings are completed regularly. However, these meetings are not used to enhance staff development and help them to build on their practice.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Staff understand the provider's safeguarding policy. However, the designated safeguarding lead is not on site and the manager reports not always being able to get hold of her when they need advice or guidance on safeguarding matters. Staff do not have knowledge of wider safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty or county lines. This does not help to safeguard children's welfare. Staff have completed safeguarding training. However, this is not embedded into their day-to-day practice and their knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse is poor. Staff escort children to the club safely. They remind the children to walk in twos and to remember how to cross the road safely.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

| | Due date |
|---|------------|
| ensure all staff have a secure understanding of how to recognise and act on any safeguarding concerns they may have about a child in their care | 30/06/2022 |
| ensure that there is a designated practitioner to take lead responsibility for safeguarding in the setting | 30/06/2022 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| ensure that supervision provides support and coaching for staff to improve their personal effectiveness and to understand their role and responsibilities | 30/06/2022 |
| ensure information regarding children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is accessible, and arrangements are in place to support their individual needs. | 30/06/2022 |

Setting details

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|--|---|
| Unique reference number | 2541514 |
| Local authority | Hertfordshire |
| Inspection number | 10208675 |
| 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 | 16 |
| Number of children on roll | 24 |
| Name of registered person | Energy Kidz Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP901001 |
| Telephone number | 07970499197 |
| Date of previous inspection | Not applicable |

Information about this early years setting

Energy Kidz Out Of School Club - The Orchard Wd24 registered in 2019. They offer before- and after-school care for children from The Orchard School and Beech Hill School. The setting employs four staff members, all of whom hold a relevant early years qualification at level 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lisa Smith

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 the evaluations of the provider.
- The manager showed the inspector around the club and explained how the play environment is organised.
- The inspector had several discussions with the manager to explore how the club is led and managed. The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parent reviews were looked at by the inspector and the inspector took into account their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of suitability of the manager and staff team.

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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