

# Inspection of Energy Kidz @ Lanchester

Lanchester Community Free School, Hempstead Road, Watford, Hertfordshire  
WD17 3HD

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Inspection date:

8 June 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 happy and settled. The youngest children walk sensibly from their classroom to the club, talking to staff about what they have done during the day. They quickly settle to an activity. They respond positively to support and encouragement that staff give them. For instance, they participate in small group activities, which help them to build on their sharing and turn-taking skills.

Children of various ages play happily together. For instance, they play games together in the outdoor area. Younger children enjoy interacting with older children. The older children act as positive role models. For example, they help the younger children to choose a coloured hoop to run to during a game.

Children feel valued at the club. They help to make choices, such as deciding what fruit to have for snack. They share their thoughts and ideas about the activities they complete. They respond happily when staff take on board their comments, such as when staff rapidly implement changes to activities for the following day. Children confidently comment to staff that they prefer the new activity.

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

- The management team takes a proactive approach to the running of the club. It regularly reflects on the service it provides. For instance, new record books have recently been introduced to support the early years children. Key persons invite the children to complete these with them. Children share their interests and favourite activities in the books. This helps the staff to form meaningful relationships with the children and provide them with exciting activities.
- Children demonstrate high levels of engagement and focus. They confidently speak to visitors about the activities that they complete. For instance, they talk about the paper creations they have made, before demonstrating how they work. Staff interact positively with children. For example, they involve themselves in the games children play. Staff and children line up domino tiles, working carefully together, so that the dominoes do not fall.
- Staff feel well supported in their roles. They have regular supervision meetings where they can discuss their successes and areas for development. Staff are keen to access online training. This helps them to strengthen their interactions with children. Staff feel valued. They share ideas for activities. They take on responsibilities such as leading the activities themselves. As a result, staff develop their confidence and professional skills.
- Parents are happy with the service that the club provides. They feel well informed about what their children do while they are at the club. Staff talk to them about any issues that arise sensitively. Parents share vital information with

staff at the club before children start. This helps staff to manage children's needs effectively.

- There have been a number of staff changes at the club recently. This contributes towards relationships with staff at the school not yet being as strong as they could be. Leaders and managers recognise the importance of strengthening these relationships further. They understand how stronger communication between class teachers and the staff at the club can benefit the children.
- The newly appointed manager is beginning to implement various new strategies and routines. However, due to the short time she has been in post, these strategies are not yet fully embedded. Nonetheless, children are beginning to respond positively to the changes. For instance, they are joining in with clapping patterns when staff need to speak to all of the children at the same time.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have a strong understanding of their responsibilities regarding safeguarding. They receive training to develop their knowledge further. Staff recognise the possible signs of abuse and neglect. Managers ensure that staff remain suitable for their roles. Staff are aware of wider safeguarding issues, such as identifying children who may be at risk of exposure to extreme views and behaviour. Staff know how to raise concerns regarding their colleagues. They are confident in the process to follow should their concerns not be addressed by the management team.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2566833
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10239369
<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>	4 to 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	40
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	150
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Sherpa Kids England Ltd
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2539940
<b>Telephone number</b>	07803887610
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Energy Kidz @ Lanchester registered in 2020. The club operates from Monday to Friday during term time. Sessions run from 3.15pm to 6pm.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Jenny Hardy

### 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 her evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector held discussions with parents regarding the service that the club provides. She took their views into consideration.
- Managers and the inspector observed staff interacting with children. They held discussions regarding the quality of these interactions.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including staff suitability documents.

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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