

Inspection of Pioneer Childcare - St Wilfrid's

St. Wilfrids Catholic Primary School, School Close, Burgess Hill, Sussex RH15 9RJ

Inspection date: 8 June 2022

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

All children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are warmly welcomed as they arrive at this club. Children know the routines and quickly settle to quiet activities, such as reading or puzzles. The youngest children greatly enjoy the animated story reading by a familiar member of staff in their playroom. When all the children have arrived, they come together for 'show and tell' time. They are eager to share news about their school day. Staff show genuine interest and encourage meaningful conversations. They celebrate events in children's lives, such as birthdays. Children listen very carefully to staff and each other.

Children are very happy, safe and well cared for. They develop excellent relationships with the attentive staff. Children of all ages play very well together. They share, help each other and ask politely when they need staff's support.

Children are confident and motivated by the enjoyable activities on offer throughout the club session. For example, they persevere in drawing and cutting out paper fish. They challenge each other to race the fish by blowing them across the floor. They shriek with delight as they beat the staff's fish. Other children talk about the weather as they create pictures of the sun. They are excited to take these home.

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

- Staff consistently model respectful behaviour and promote the club's values. They give gentle reminders to ensure children know their expectations. For instance, children eagerly explain the 'Pioneer Characters', such as 'Charlie' who reminds them to 'be responsible'. Staff praise children's efforts and achievements to raise self-esteem. They reward children with Pioneer Character stickers that they are keen to show their parents. Children behave extremely well.
- Managers and staff know the children very well and monitor children's well-being carefully. Staff are quick to recognise, and sensitively support, children who are less confident or anxious. They encourage children to talk about how they are feeling and to find resolutions to problems. An experienced member of staff focuses on the youngest children's welfare and consistently ensures they are settled and happy.
- Staff support children to have a healthy lifestyle. They provide children with healthy food, such as wraps and fruit, for tea. Staff are fully aware of children's allergies and dietary needs and ensure these are met. Children independently follow good hygiene procedures, including handwashing, when needed.

- After tea, staff give children a choice between active games or quiet activities. Children learn about being part of a team and use up energy as they run relay races across the school hall. They cooperate well together as they play board games or make models from building bricks. Children are fully engaged and concentrate well.
- Staff listen carefully to children and value their ideas and opinions. For instance, children use the club's suggestions box to ask for 'more football'. Managers are planning ways to increase active play further and reduce the time children sit between activities.
- Managers and the staff team work very well together and are happy in their work. They share ideas and plan activities together. Staff are extremely well supported by managers. They receive a detailed induction and regular training to help them understand and carry out their roles and responsibilities effectively. Managers set clear targets for staff at frequent supervision meetings. This helps to ensure ongoing improvements to practice that greatly benefit the children.
- Parents are extremely complimentary about the club. They appreciate the convenience and the good collaboration with the school. Parents praise the helpful staff. They say that their children love attending and have gained social skills and confidence. Staff talk to parents each day to give feedback about their children's day at school as well as their time in the club.
- Managers and staff have strong partnerships with teachers in the two schools attended by the children. Staff gather information from teachers when they collect children and pass on any messages to parents. This helps to ensure continuity of care for the children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff complete appropriate safeguarding training regularly and have a good understanding of what to do if they have a concern about a child's welfare. They are clear about the procedures to follow. Staff are carefully checked to ensure they are suitable to work with children. Managers and staff supervise children carefully to help to ensure they play safely. They support children to learn to manage their own risks, such as how to cross a road safely. The premises are secure so that children cannot leave unsupervised and unexpected visitors cannot gain access. Staff are trained to know what to do in a medical emergency.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2579255
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	10239460
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	80
Number of children on roll	343
Name of registered person	Pioneer Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP900510
Telephone number	01444411388
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Pioneer Childcare - St Wilfrid's registered in February 2020. It operates from St Wilfrid's Primary School in Burgess Hill, in West Sussex. The club opens Monday to Friday, from 3pm to 6.30pm, during term time. It employs five members of staff, two of whom hold a qualification at level 3 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sue Suleyman

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 viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The club manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity.
- Some parents and children spoke to the inspector and she took their views into account.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.

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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