

Inspection of Kids In Charge At Heathcote School

Heathcote School & Science College, 96 Normanton Park, London, Essex E4 6ES

Inspection date:

20 July 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

Children arrive at the club and immediately settle in to begin playing indoors and outdoors. The environment is well organised, bright and airy. The manager has ensured children enjoy a good range of interesting activities that keep them thoroughly engaged. Children energetically play games like tennis, hoop rolling and walking on stilts outside. They have good relationships with staff.

Children are keen to share their news with staff. They comfortably approach adults with any concerns or worries they might have. Children see the adults as trustworthy persons who listen to them and treat them fairly. They describe the club as a place where they can have fun and everyone is included.

The adults communicate high expectations for children's behaviour. Hence, overall, children behave well at the club. Disagreements among children are short-lived. On occasions when they do arise, the adults intervene promptly. They sensitively remind children to be kind and consider each other's feelings.

Snack times are happy social occasions where staff sit with children and hold meaningful conversations. Children enjoy a variety of healthy meals. They slice their own bagels, fill them with cheese and eat fruits and vegetables. After eating, children responsibly wash their own plates.

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

- Children know they are valued by the manager and her team. Each term, staff consult children for their preferences of activities and resources. This is an integral part of their planning and all the children are involved. Hence, children see themselves as having an important role in deciding what happens at the club.
- Children immerse themselves in a variety of activities such as regular cooking sessions, construction, messy play, board games and making slime. They enjoy making arts and crafts in celebration of special and cultural days. These include Eid, Father's Day, St Patrick's Day, St Georges Day and The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- Hygiene standards are high at the club. Staff thoroughly sanitise surfaces used by the children. Children wash their hands as they arrive, after playing and before eating.
- The manager ensures school collection procedures are carried out safely. Staff mark children in the register as they line up after school. Children are provided with high-visibility jackets for their journey to and from the club. They know they must only cross main roads when it is safe to do so.

- The manager is very experienced practitioner who uses her expertise well to guide staff. She holds regular supervision sessions with them to identify areas where they can improve further. She is proactive at seeking training courses that facilitate their ongoing professional development. This helps staff build their knowledge of good practice in childcare.
- Staff describe their workloads as manageable. They feel being able to work flexibly around their personal obligations creates a good work-life balance. Newly appointed staff receive structured support and develop well. This is because the manager guides them well by gradually easing them into their role and responsibilities.
- Parents are happy with the care and quality of activities their children enjoy at the club. They described staff as friendly and helpful adults who consider their views and opinions.
- The club manager works closely with the general manager to continuously evaluate the overall effectiveness of the provision. They have reflectively analysed responses gathered from parents' feedback questionnaires. They are keen to improve parent partnerships and communication even further. Hence, they have firm plans to provide a family website that parents can access for information and updates.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff know the signs that suggest a child is at risk of harm. They know the roles of relevant safeguarding partners and how to contact them. Staff have clear procedures to follow and understand their responsibilities around whistleblowing and child allegations. The manager ensures that the premises are secure and safe. Gates are kept shut and unauthorised persons are prohibited from accessing children's play areas. The manager maintains good relations with the host school. This helps with exchanging important information necessary to inform her ongoing risk assessments. This ensures children are kept safe at the club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2543973
Local authority	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Inspection number	10215460
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	3 to 11
Total number of places	50
Number of children on roll	45
Name of registered person	Kids in Charge (Making A Choice For A Better Future) Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP911074
Telephone number	07870800325
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Kids In Charge At Heathcote School registered in 2019. It is located in Chingford, in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. The out-of-school club operates Monday to Friday during term time from 7am to 9am and from 3.30pm to 6pm. There are three staff members, two of whom hold level 3 qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Olivia Awolola

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 setting.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children to gather their views and opinions about the club.
- A leadership discussion took place with the manager. This helped the inspector to evaluate how effectively the club is managed and led.
- The inspector evaluated children's travel safety by accompanying staff to collect children from school.
- A range of documentation and records were sampled by the inspector. These included staff qualifications and the setting's risk assessments.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions with staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to staff about their roles and responsibilities.

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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