

Inspection of Family 1st

Gidea Park Primary School, Lodge Avenue, ROMFORD RM2 5AJ

Inspection date:

12 October 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

Children are happy and settled at the club. They arrive with big smiles, eager to see their friends. Children show that they are familiar with the club routines. They display a sense of belonging as they put away their bags and settle down to play. Children demonstrate that they have formed trusting bonds with the staff and enjoy their company. For instance, they ask staff for help as they learn how to thread needles and sew. Children and staff share meaningful conversations as they discuss children's experiences at school and what they would like to do at the club.

Children respond positively to the high expectations of staff. They behave well and are friendly and helpful. Children make independent choices about what they want to play with. They display positive attitudes and join in wholeheartedly with activities. Children use their imaginations and play cooperatively as they pretend to prepare a party in the play kitchen. They practise writing and drawing as they create colourful greetings cards for their friends and family. Children enjoy outdoor activities and show great delight as they play safely in the spacious playground. They practise their aim as they create a throwing game and demonstrate that they understand 'fair play' as they negotiate the rules.

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

- Leaders and staff work together effectively, to provide a happy and nurturing environment for children. Staff complete mandatory training, so that they know how to promote children's safety and welfare. They also have access to a range of online courses, to further enhance their professional skills. Staff speak positively about their roles and say that they feel well supported by leaders.
- Staff want children to have fun and relax at the club after a busy day at school. They consider children's interests and abilities when setting up the environment, to ensure that the resources are appealing and provide enough challenge. Consequently, children are eager to take part and have high levels of engagement.
- Children clearly enjoy their time at the club. They are excited to explore a box of play figures and create imaginative storylines with their friends. Children try hard and concentrate well as they develop sewing skills. They chat confidently about what they are doing and are keen to show off their creations to others.
- In general, the club routines are well organised and run smoothly. Children have opportunities to eat, rest, exercise and play, supported by the caring staff. However, some periods such as registration are less well planned and involve a lot of waiting time for children. Therefore, children become bored and restless.
- Children's voices are valued at the club. Staff provide them with opportunities to suggest their ideas for activities and make choices about the menus. Children

are given options about they want to do during the daily routine. For example, children decide whether they would like to spend more time indoors or outdoors.

- Staff support healthy lifestyles for children well. They provide healthy food choices, which include a selection of fresh fruit and vegetables. Staff encourage children to sample new foods and discuss the benefits of eating well. They ensure that children have daily access to outdoor play, where they enjoy vigorous physical exercise.
- Children develop their personal care skills well. For example, children wash their hands before tea. They collect their own plate and choose from a selection of sandwiches, salad items and fresh fruit. Children enjoy being helpful and are keen to assist staff with tasks, such as washing the dishes and sweeping up.
- Parents speak highly of the club and describe the good rapport between the staff and children. They comment that their children are happy and enjoy the variety of activities. Parents appreciate the flexible and supportive approach from leaders and staff, which helps them to organise their childcare needs. Staff share information with parents at collection times. They talk through what children have been doing and pass on messages from school.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and staff are aware of their responsibility to protect children from harm. They attend training to keep their knowledge of safeguarding issues up to date. Leaders and staff know what action to take if they have any concerns about a child's welfare. They understand the procedures to follow to report concerns or allegations about the conduct of a staff member. The provider follows safer recruitment procedures to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff carry out daily risk assessments to remove or reduce risks to children. They supervise children well, to help ensure their safety.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY498416
Local authority	Havering
Inspection number	10234007
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	50
Number of children on roll	71
Name of registered person	Family 1st Services Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP535157
Telephone number	07551246823
Date of previous inspection	21 October 2016

Information about this early years setting

Family 1st registered in 2016. The after-school club operates from Gidea Park Primary School in Romford, Essex. The club is open weekdays from 3.30pm to 6pm, during term time only. The club employs five members of staff. Of these, four hold early years qualifications at level 3 or level 2.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Crawford

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider has received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager showed the inspector around the areas used by the club and explained how the provision is organised.
- Leaders met with the inspector to discuss leadership issues, such as staff recruitment, supervision and training. They ensured that relevant documents were available for the inspector to view. This includes staff's suitability checks and paediatric first-aid certificates.
- The inspector observed a range of activities and interactions between staff and children, to assess how well the club meets children's needs.
- The inspector held discussions with parents, staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection, to assess their views and experiences.

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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