

Inspection of Kids Zone Childcare Limited

Unit 14 Sea Lake Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 3LQ

Inspection date: 12 October 2022

Overall effectiveness **Good**

The quality of education **Good**

Behaviour and attitudes **Good**

Personal development **Good**

Leadership and management **Good**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are eager to start their day at this friendly nursery. They are warmly welcomed by caring staff, who take time to chat to them. Children show they are happy and secure. They rush over to staff and spontaneously wrap their arms around them. Babies climb onto staff's laps to share books. They cuddle closely as they help to turn the pages.

Children are motivated and make independent decisions about their own learning. For example, older children find their favourite toy animals and spend time setting up a farm. Toddlers push cars down ramps. Babies become engrossed in pressing buttons to make toys flash and play music.

Children display good behaviour and an awareness of routines and expectations. For example, they return toys to their correct place when they hear the 'tidy up' song playing. Children show kindness and patience. They wait for their turn to use the slide and work together to set out a pretend picnic. Babies look at each other and smile. They clap excitedly when they play next to each other. Staff support children's self-esteem. They tell children 'well done' and 'keep trying'. Staff are quick to record children's achievements on the 'wow' board.

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

- The manager and deputy manager demonstrate a clear curriculum intent for the nursery. The curriculum builds on what children already know and can do. Activities and experiences take into account children's emerging interests. Planning embeds children's prime areas of development, and any gaps are quickly identified. The manager uses additional funding effectively to support children further.
- Children enjoy being active and make full use of the carefully thought out opportunities to dig, climb, slide, run and balance. This results in good levels of physical ability across all ages. For example, children use climbing frames and whizz down slides. They chase each other during a game of hide and seek. Toddlers show control when pushing prams and wheelbarrows around obstacles.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported to reach their potential. The special educational needs coordinator works closely with other professionals and parents. He aids staff to ensure care for children is consistent, including care for children with SEND. As a result, children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children freely use numbers and counting in their play. For example, young children arrange toy cars in a line and point to them as they count. Older children use construction bricks to build castles. They use tape measures to find the height of their design. Children carefully study each number and tell staff

'five is bigger than three'. They smile as they correctly identify when their castle has got taller.

- Parents speak highly of the nursery. They report that staff are 'wonderfully kind and caring'. They say their children are very happy and settled. Parents comment on how quickly their children make progress, especially with their communication. They appreciate daily verbal feedback and updates.
- Leaders have a clear ambition for the nursery. The manager and deputy manager form a strong team. They work closely together to review practice to drive improvement. Staff share that they feel fully supported and are keen to develop their skills. Training needs are quickly identified and targeted.
- Children develop a love of reading. They spend long periods of time looking at books, both indoors and outdoors. Staff take time to read stories and information books to children. For example, staff read books about animal's teeth. They introduce the words 'sharp' and 'blunt'. Children giggle when they learn that snails have the most teeth.
- Children enjoy making marks and are starting to develop their early writing skills. They draw circles and lines on the floor using chalk. However, sometimes, staff do not fully support children to build on their early writing skills.
- Daily routines are not always managed effectively. For example, children wait for extended periods of time while staff share out food during snack time. As a result, children's learning time is not fully maximised.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and staff complete regular training to keep their awareness of child protection issues up to date. They show an awareness of issues that may have an effect on the children in their care, including wider safeguarding concerns, such as radicalisation. Staff know how to identify and report concerns regarding the behaviour of an adult. The manager ensures all staff have a working understanding of safeguarding, and she regularly uses questioning techniques to 'test' this. Leaders have sound recruitment and induction procedures in place to help ensure staff are suitable to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- review the organisation of routines so that children's play and learning time is maximised
- strengthen staff knowledge of how to support children's early writing development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY483761
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10236562
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	42
Number of children on roll	28
Name of registered person	Kids Zone Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534165
Telephone number	01502 587081
Date of previous inspection	1 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

Kids Zone Childcare Limited registered in 2015. The setting employs eight members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 7, two at level 6, one at level 5, two at level 3 and one at level 2. The nursery opens from Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and the period between Christmas and New Year. Sessions are from 7am to 6pm. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Helen Oakden

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 this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The deputy manager led the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation together.
- Staff and children spoke to the inspector at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The manager provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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