

# Inspection of Fun Express Ltd

St Albans Catholic Primary School, Priory Lane, Macclesfield SK10 3HJ

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Inspection date:

21 October 2022

**The quality and  
standards of early  
years provision**

**This  
inspection**

**Not met (enforcement)**

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Previous  
inspection

Good

## **What is it like to attend this early years setting?**

### **This provision does not meet requirements**

There are significant weaknesses in the leadership and management of this setting. The manager does not understand their responsibilities to ensure children can be safe here. Staff show a poor understanding of safeguarding procedures, including the signs and symptoms of abuse. This means that children are at significant risk of harm. Risk assessments are not regularly reviewed. The setting is not checked to make sure it is safe for children to attend. For example, the outdoor play area is not secure, which means that anyone can enter the premises. The manager has not ensured staff have had any induction training when starting work at the setting. This means that they do not understand the responsibilities and requirements of their role. In addition, the manager has failed to notify Ofsted about changes to the directors.

Despite these serious weaknesses, children are happy at the setting. They benefit from a calm environment where they can choose to relax, play and socialise with other children. They have access to indoor and outdoor play and can choose from a variety of resources depending on their interests. This helps children to make their own decisions.

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

- The manager has not undertaken suitability checks on staff working with children at the club. Furthermore, there are no systems in place to verify the ongoing suitability of staff to work with children. This places children at risk of harm. This is because the manager does not know if there are any factors that mean staff are unsuitable to work with children, as she has no background information about them.
- The manager and staff have not completed mandatory safeguarding training. Their knowledge of what would make them concerned about a child's safety or the conduct of a colleague is vague. The manager has not updated safeguarding policies and procedures for a significant length of time. This means that staff do not have up-to-date information about how to report concerns. This places children at significant risk of harm.
- The premises are not safe and secure. The main gate, which leads to an accessible car park, is not secure. Children and any unauthorised person can access these areas easily. This places children at significant risk of harm, as they are able to leave the premises. Deployment of staff often means that staff with no suitability checks supervise children, both indoors and outdoors.
- The manager has not implemented a supervision process for staff. There are no plans in place for professional development or training. This does not help staff to build on existing practice to improve the setting.

- Children behave well. All ages of children play well together and take turns while playing group games outside. Staff encourage children to be respectful and listen to each other's ideas while using chalks to draw large floor sketches outside. This helps children to develop friendships with each other.
- Children learn to be independent as they use the bathroom, wash their hands and put away their belongings. They access activities and resources that are of interest to them and tidy them away when they have finished. This helps children to learn to do things for themselves.
- Children are engaged and enjoy taking part in group games. Staff are attentive to children and support their play. Staff encourage children to throw the ball to each other while playing outside. This helps children develop their physical skills.
- The manager and staff have positive relationships with parents. Staff know parents well and update them about their children's daily activities. Parents appreciate that their children enjoy their time at the setting.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Safeguarding practice is weak. The manager has not ensured that staff are suitably checked and vetted to work with children. Safeguarding procedures are not up to date. The manager and staff have not undertaken recent safeguarding training. As a result, they are not confident in their knowledge of safeguarding or how to report concerns about children or colleagues. Risk assessments are not completed regularly to ensure the safety and security of the setting. This means that children are constantly at risk of harm. The setting does have a qualified paediatric first aider on site at all times.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

**The provision is not meeting requirements and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.**

**We intend to take steps to suspend registration and will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:**

|  | Due date   |
|--|------------|
| ensure all staff are checked for suitability to work with children, this must include obtaining an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check | 09/11/2022 |
| train all staff to understand the procedures in the setting's safeguarding policy  | 09/11/2022 |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| ensure a current written policy to safeguard children from abuse or neglect is in place and followed                  | 09/11/2022 |
| ensure the premises are secure, and take all reasonable steps so that no unauthorised persons can enter the premises  | 09/11/2022 |
| demonstrate how a system for staff supervision is in place to provide support, coaching and training for staff        | 09/11/2022 |
| demonstrate how staff who are not suitably checked will not have unsupervised access to children                      | 09/11/2022 |
| ensure the person responsible for safeguarding children has attended an appropriate child protection training course. | 09/11/2022 |

## Setting details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>                     | EY487282  |
| <b>Local authority</b>                             | Cheshire East   |
| <b>Inspection number</b>                           | 10233971  |
| <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>                      | 50  |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>                  | 74  |
| <b>Name of registered person</b>                   | Fun Express Limited   |
| <b>Registered person unique reference number</b>   | RP534437  |
| <b>Telephone number</b>                            | 01625 430292  |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b>                 | 26 October 2016   |

## Information about this early years setting

Fun Express Ltd registered in 2015 and operates from St Albans Catholic Primary School in Macclesfield. The club employs three members of childcare staff, including the manager. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualifications at level 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm, during term time, and 8am to 6pm, during school holidays.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Jasmin Sanders

## 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.
- Discussions were held with the manager and staff by the inspector to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding processes, staff supervision and training.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including staff training, policies, procedures and recruitment and vetting information.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual/manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.

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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