

Inspection of Funky Monkeys Kids Club

116 Bancroft Road, WIDNES, Cheshire WA8 3LL

Inspection date:

20 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 arrive excitedly at this after-school club and independently choose a peg to hang their bags on and put on their slippers. Children engage in a range of activities, both independently or guided by staff. This helps to support the children's needs and interests. During snack time, the older children sit together for a snack and share their news for the week. Younger children then sit and have their snack. Staff create a safe, well-organised environment that children access freely. They incorporate the children's different interests and needs. There is a quiet area for reading, a role-play area, a large creative area and an area to sit quietly and complete homework. Some of the children have shown an interest in making and creating. They work together to make creations of hedgehogs with the various materials provided. They confidently discuss with friends what they are making and what they could add. Children are keen to share their creations with others.

Children also access a large outdoor play environment, which allows them to develop their physical skills. Staff plan purposeful activities for the children, providing them with many opportunities to voice their views and opinions. This enables children to contribute ideas for daily activities and the sports they choose to participate in.

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

- Leadership and management of the club are strong. Members of the management team provide many opportunities for staff's professional development. They support staff well through regular supervision meetings and target training to meet staff needs. Staff share their new knowledge gained from training with the wider team. For example, during safeguarding training, staff share symptoms of being drawn into county lines and drug gangs. This ensures new ideas and good practice can be implemented effectively.
- Staff play and interact with children in a positive way. They encourage children to keep trying when tasks are difficult. For example, children concentrate as they patiently glue eyes onto their pinecones as they create hedgehogs. Staff praise children for their efforts. Children delight in their achievement when the eyes stick onto their creation. This demonstrates children's resilience and that they cope well when they do not always succeed.
- Safety in the club is a high priority. The building is secure and visitors are signed in and out of the club. Staff carry out daily risk assessments of the purposeful provision and grounds to ensure the safety of children. They have also updated relevant policies and procedures for collecting children from the school to ensure a detailed handover with the teacher. Children are provided with a safe and

secure environment to play and learn in.

- Children behave exceptionally well. Staff have high expectations of all children and their consistent approach promotes respect and kindness to everyone. This means that children know and understand the boundaries in place and use their manners appropriately. Older children and younger children play pleasantly together. For example, the older children enjoy reading story books to the younger children.
- Staff support children to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Children all wash their hands as they arrive at the club and before snack times. Nutritious snacks are provided that cater to all children's individual dietary needs. Children also have access to a large outside play area, opposite the club, where they can climb, run and play with balls. Children learn the importance of being healthy and active.
- Children with emerging special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported. Staff work closely with the host school, parents and outside agencies to ensure children have the best care. They ensure children have a positive experience while at the club. Children are well supported, they enjoy play and learning.
- Parents spoken to during the inspection are very happy with the club. They offer high praise for the manager and the staff team. Parents feel the club is a reliable and flexible service, which meets the needs of local families. Parents comment that children 'love coming to after-school club and don't want to come home'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Members of the management team ensure that staff clearly understand their role and responsibilities regarding safeguarding. All staff understand that safeguarding children is paramount. The management team provide regular training and ensure staff can easily access contact information for safeguarding agencies. Managers use staff meetings to ensure that training is fully embedded. Staff are aware of the signs and symptoms that might indicate abuse. They know how to report any concerns they may have about a child or adult. Staff put measures in place to keep children safe online, such as putting parental controls on the computers they use in the after-school club.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY395013
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10235321
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	30
Number of children on roll	52
Name of registered person	Wilcock, Yvonne
Registered person unique reference number	RP515282
Telephone number	07895920040
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2017

Information about this early years setting

Funky Monkeys Kids Club registered in 2009. The club employs four members of childcare staff. All staff hold appropriate childcare qualifications at level 3 and above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions from 3pm until 5.45pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jason Holmes

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the club 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 club.
- The manager and the inspector completed a tour around the setting to determine the organisation and planning of activities.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while at the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children as they engaged in activities inside and outside.
- The inspector held discussions with leaders, staff, parents and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection to gather their views.
- Parents' views were shared with the inspector for consideration during the inspection.

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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