

Inspection of Kidzone

Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School, Little Wheatley Chase, Rayleigh SS6 9EH

Inspection date:

29 November 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Children leave the setting at different times and accurate records of the time of their departure are not maintained. This compromises children's safety in the event of an emergency evacuation. However, children excitedly arrive at the club. They are warmly welcomed and greeted by happy, attentive staff, who show a genuine interest in the children's day at school. Children are happy and eager to explore the activities on offer. Young children are confident in their environment. They understand the rules, expectations, and routines of the club.

Children have established close bonds with the staff, who know them well. They engage in meaningful conversations and children enthusiastically tell staff about their day. Children of mixed ages play well together and have made friendships. The older children are very helpful and caring towards the younger ones. They support them in their activities. For example, they help them with their Christmas collage and giggle as they show them how to remove glue from their hands, enjoying the sensory experience. Overall, children's behaviour is very good.

Children sit together for dinner. This is a relaxed and sociable time. They enjoy their meal at their own pace while chatting with their friends, fully supported by the staff. Children sit quietly and relax after they have eaten and enjoy looking at books. They return to activities and group games. Children tell visitors to the club how 'kind and caring' the staff are and how much they enjoy their time there.

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

- The manager understands her responsibility to protect children's welfare. However, children's safety is compromised as the records of children's attendance are not accurate. This is a breach of requirements.
- Children happily arrive and are excited to explore the activities provided. Staff know the children well and what they like to do. They plan focused activities that engage the children's interests. Staff are caring and speak to the children with respect. Consistent, enthusiastic staff mean children are cared for by staff familiar to them. Young children settle well, and their emotional well-being is supported. For example, reassurance and cuddles are offered if needed.
- Managers and the team have established positive working relationships with the host school. They share relevant information to ensure continuity of care for the children attending. Regular communication with the headteacher and club staff ensure that key information is shared.
- Staff have established professional, friendly partnerships with the parents. Parents speak positively about all aspects of the club and the supportive staff team. They comment that their children are keen to attend. Parents appreciate

the care their children receive and feel reassured leaving their children at the club. They comment that communication is good. They welcome the personal update and sharing of information when they collect their children.

- Children's requests are fully supported. They can select toys and games from the quality resources available to them. They show sustained concentration at creative activities, which are very popular. They spend time colouring and are proud of their achievements. They receive lots of encouragement and praise and their efforts are celebrated.
- Children enjoy a well balanced and healthy menu. They are offered a hot tea that is freshly prepared by the staff. Teatime is regarded as a sociable occasion, and they sit and eat with their friends and demonstrate good manners. Young children can take care of their personal needs independently and know to wash their hands without prompting when visiting the bathroom. However, a member of staff is on hand should they require any support.
- The club runs seamlessly. The staff understand their roles and responsibilities and work well as a team. The manager monitors staff practice regularly, as she attends the sessions each day. Training needs are discussed and positively supported, as the manager is aware of how this benefits good outcomes for children. Regular meetings and support ensure staff remain motivated and their own personal development is considered. Staff comment that they enjoy their work and feel valued and part of a team where their ideas are welcomed.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Children's safety may be compromised in the event of an emergency as records of their attendance are not accurate and do not detail times of their departure. Despite this, the managers and team of staff have a good understanding of child protection procedures to protect children's welfare. They have a sound knowledge of the possible signs and behaviours that may cause concern. They have a secure knowledge of wider aspects of child protection, such as domestic violence and the 'Prevent' duty. They know how to report any concerns to ensure children at risk of harm are kept safe. Priority is given to complete appropriate safeguarding training before staff commence their role. Robust recruitment procedures, ongoing suitability checks and a good induction ensure children are cared for by people suitable to do so.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
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ensure that children's hours of attendance are recorded accurately.	30/11/2022
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Setting details

Unique reference number	2604301
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10251647
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 10
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	53
Name of registered person	Lake, Natalie Bridget
Registered person unique reference number	RP542710
Telephone number	07415752204
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Kidzone registered in 2020. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time. They operate from 3pm to 6pm Monday to Thursday and from 3pm to 5pm on a Friday. A breakfast club operates from 7am to 8.30am. The club employs six members of childcare staff, two of whom hold appropriate early years qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynn Hartigan

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting has 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 manager showed the inspector around the club and explained how the play environment is organised.
- The inspector had several discussions with the manager to explore the leadership and management of the club. The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the provider's documentation, including policies and procedures, and staff's first-aid training certificates.
- Parents told the inspector what they thought about the provision and staff, and their views were considered.
- The children told the inspector about what they like to do when they are at the club.

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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