

Inspection of Cool Kidz

Woodlands Primary School, Alban Crescent, Borehamwood WD6 5JF

Inspection date:

14 December 2022

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children arrive happily at the club and receive a warm, enthusiastic welcome from the friendly staff. Children are pleased to see their friends and chat to each other about their day at school. The designated rooms for the club are set up well. Children have many play opportunities, such as to build with construction toys, engage in craft activities or role play. Staff leave activities out, so that children can return to them the next day, such as to complete complex jigsaw puzzles.

Children are sociable and engage in conversations with visitors. They readily give their views on the club, saying they like to attend and describe their favourite activities. Overall, children's behaviour is good. When children become over excited, staff deal with them very well. For example, they spend time with them in the quiet area or take them to visit the school's pets. Staff and children clearly enjoy the company of each other and mutual respect between them is evident. Children use good manners, such as by saying please and thank you consistently.

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

- The staff team is well established. Despite this, the provider has strong recruitment procedures in place. This helps to ensure that staff are suitable to work with children. All staff, currently employed at the club, also work in the host school. This enables them to know children well and to provide a consistent approach to their care.
- Children thoroughly enjoy being creative. Staff provide a wide range of resources for them to use. Children engage well in making candle holders for Christmas. Staff talk to children about how battery-operated tea lights are safer than real candle flames. Children understand the risk of burns and talk about the rules parents have at home.
- Parents speak positively about the club and staff. They say their children are very happy to attend and are always reluctant to leave. Parents say they have confidence leaving their children, as they feel children are safe and the staff know them very well. Parents describe the club as 'a lifeline', saying it gives them the opportunity to work.
- Staff plan play opportunities based on children's interests. Role play is currently a favourite activity. Children pretend to run a restaurant and spend time creating menus. They draw pictures to show what meals they are providing. Children are keen for visitors to join in and ask what food they would like to see on the menu. Children's skills in using pencils are good. This shows they have opportunities to practise using skills they are gaining at school.
- The provider and staff actively seek ways they can support children's mental health and well-being. They undertake training to help develop their knowledge

and skills. Staff talk about how they feel it is important to gain a full picture of each child's personality and life experiences. This helps them to have a deeper understanding of underlying issues, which may affect children's well-being.

- The provider and staff evaluate the service they provide and look for ways to improve. The provider talks about how they are looking to extend children play opportunities outdoors. She feels exercise and fresh air are important for children's health and well-being. The provider has occasional, informal meetings with staff to discuss their practice. This aspect of performance management is an area for further development.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The provider and staff understand how to recognise signs that children may be at risk of harm or abuse. They know how to swiftly make referrals, both within the setting and to relevant agencies. Staff undertake training to help them to gain further knowledge and skills, such as on signs of extremist behaviour. They work in close partnership with the host school, which further strengthens their safeguarding practice. Staff make sure all children are clearly signed in the register. They find out from teachers if children were at school, if they do not attend when expected. This helps them to know that children are safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2611949
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10263007
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	22
Name of registered person	Bream, Jane
Registered person unique reference number	2611951
Telephone number	07922104065
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Cool Kidz registered in 2020. The club is open five days a week from 8am until 8.45am and from 3.15pm until 6pm, through school term times. During most school holidays the club opens from 8am until 5pm. There are eight members of staff employed at the club. Of these, six hold appropriate qualifications at level 2 or above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 setting.
- The inspector took a tour of the club with the provider. They talked about how the club is organised and discussed the play opportunities they provide for children.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions during activities between the staff and children.
- A sample of records, including safeguarding policies and procedures and staff suitability records were seen by the inspector.
- The inspector spoke to a sample of children, staff and parents and took account of their views.

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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