

Inspection of Multi-Active Essendon

Essendon Primary School, School Lane, Essendon, Hatfield AL9 6HD

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 at the club happy and settled. They are warmly greeted by staff who ask how their day has been at school. Children form good relationships with staff, which helps children feel safe and secure. They are familiar with procedures as they put their belongings in the allocated area and sit down to go through behaviour rules and fire drills. Children behave extremely well. Staff set high expectations for children's behaviour and are good role models for the children. Children listen to instructions and play happily alongside each other, showing respect for each other and staff.

Children have clear choices of what they would like to do in the club and have access to a wide range of activities. Each day, the children can access a different themed activity, such as cookery, performing arts, science experiments and arts and crafts. Children enjoy creating Christmas arts and crafts using glitter, and young children enjoy mixing coloured dough together to make different colours. Children have lots of opportunities to be physically active as they play football in the hall and have access to the outdoor playground area. They enjoy nature walks in nearby woodlands and learn about the different seasons.

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

- Staff know the children well. They take time to communicate with teachers to ensure that children's needs are met and that they receive continuity of care. Staff take time to consider the activities that are set out and ensure that they are based on the children's interests. For instance, cars and building bricks are set out for the younger children. Older children enjoy playing physical games in the hall.
- Staff have established a close working relationship with the school in which the club is based. They work closely with the headteacher and hold regular discussions around the provision's activities offered to ensure that they meet the children's needs. This helps to ensure that the club runs efficiently. The management team is reflective of the provision. The team uses parent questionnaires and child feedback forms to gain feedback about the club. The information is used to make improvements.
- Parents speak positively about the club. They report that their children enjoy the range of activities they can access and that staff are always very friendly. Communication is clear, with regular emails on upcoming events, such as special parties. Parents receive detailed feedback when they collect their children.
- There is an effective key-person system in place for the younger children. The manager takes time to get to know the children, spending time in their classroom. This ensures that children are familiar with the club staff and make a

smooth transition when they start.

- Children develop a positive attitude towards healthy lifestyles. They know to wash their hands before eating. They enjoy healthy meals with plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables. This helps them to make a connection about what it means to eat healthy foods. Children are independent as they serve their own food using tongs and scrape their plates when they have finished.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported. Staff meet with parents before children start to establish how they can best support them. Care plans are created and are regularly updated. Staff signpost parents to additional services, such as speech and language therapy, in order to further support children if required.
- Staff feel well supported by the management team. They receive regular supervision and have opportunities to broaden their professional development alongside their mandatory training programme. The management team focus on well-being. Staff are recognised for their achievements and dedication to their roles with incentives and staff awards. They report high levels of morale and feel part of a valued team.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Effective deployment of staff ensures that children are well supervised, and staff remain vigilant to ensure that children are safe. Children are familiar with what to do if there is a fire as they recount this to staff at the beginning of each session. Staff have a good knowledge of the steps to take if they have concerns about the welfare of a child. Information about the agencies to contact are clearly displayed on notice boards and on staff lanyards. The management team has a robust recruitment process and ensures that regular suitability checks are carried out on staff who work with the children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2600234
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10204200
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	30
Name of registered person	Multi-Active Holiday Courses Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP547413
Telephone number	07549235293
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Multi-Active Essendon registered in 2020. It operates from Essendon Primary School in Essendon, Hertfordshire. The breakfast club is open each weekday from 7.30am to 8.55am, and the after-school club runs from 3pm to 6pm, term time only.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emily Woodhead

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 manager and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the club.
- The inspector undertook a learning walk around the club with the manager. She held regular discussions with the manager and the staff.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views of the club.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of staff suitability, training records and staff files.

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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