

# Inspection of First Friends After School Club

Parkview Primary School, Springwood Drive, Oakwood, Derby, Derbyshire DE21  
2RQ

---

Inspection date: 25 January 2023

**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 come bounding out of school and staff greet them warmly. They are happy to see their friends from different classes. Children walk sensibly around the school grounds to the club. They are kind and considerate. On arrival at the club, children wait patiently for their turn to hang up their coat and bag. Older children hang their belongings on higher pegs to allow younger children to reach the lower ones.

Children settle very quickly. They show that they feel safe and happy. Children form secure relationships with staff, who are friendly and approachable. Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour. Children follow instructions and behave well. They are quick to help when asked to 'please clear the table' for snack.

Music plays in the background and creates a relaxed atmosphere. Children are eager to join in activities. They say that they 'have fun' at the club and they 'really like playing with' their friends. Younger children spend a long time building a train track. They concentrate as they push the pieces of track together carefully. Older children get creative in the 'quiet zone' and play card games together. Staff willingly participate in children's play and make sure that all feel included.

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

- Managers are evaluative. They reflect on the provision and put action plans in place when appropriate. Managers ensure that staff have relevant, up-to-date training. They feel strongly about promoting staff well-being and operate an open-door policy. Staff enjoy working at this club. They say they feel 'extremely well supported by managers' and that they 'can go to them with issues anytime'.
- There is a wide range of toys and resources for children to play with. Staff consider the individual children attending each session and plan activities based on their interests. Children explore the environment with confidence and engage eagerly in a variety of different activities, such as small-world play, drawing, play dough, puzzles, card games and playing outdoors.
- Staff promote children's health and well-being. They look at the host school's menu before planning their meals to ensure children eat a balanced and varied diet. Staff talk to children about hygiene routines, such as brushing their teeth. They promote outdoor play and take children to get fresh air and exercise daily. Children comment that playing outdoors is one of their favourite things about the club.
- Children's opinions and preferences are thoughtfully considered by staff, who show a real interest in the children. They take the time to talk to children and get to know them well. Children make choices about what they would like to do

at the club and often help select and prepare activities. They develop a sense of belonging and feel valued.

- Staff are keen to broaden children's sense of community. They take children out to play at a local park and explore a nearby woodland. In warmer weather, they pack picnics for children to enjoy outdoors. Staff plan cake sales to raise additional funds for the club. They encourage older children to help run these to offer them opportunities to develop their independence and confidence.
- Staff have developed a two-way relationship with the host school. They talk to teachers on handover and relay important messages to parents and carers. The school share their curriculum mapping for early years children and staff use this to plan activities to build on children's learning and development. They know some of the strategies the school uses to support individual children and implement these within the club. This helps provide continuity of care for children.
- Parents speak fondly of the staff in this club and feel that they communicate well. Staff speak to parents daily about their children's time at the club. They discuss what children have eaten, activities they have taken part in and any other pertinent messages. Staff also keep parents informed with updates, and news of upcoming events by emailing a newsletter.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff take their responsibility to safeguard children very seriously. They attend regular training to keep their knowledge relevant. Staff have secure knowledge of all aspects of safeguarding. They are confident in naming the types of abuse and identifying their signs and symptoms. Staff know how to record and report concerns about children and adults, including allegations made about a member of staff. Managers have robust procedures in place to ensure the suitability of all staff. Staff supervise children well. They carry out daily risk assessments to maintain a safe environment for children to play in.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY332468
<b>Local authority</b>	Derby
<b>Inspection number</b>	10233688
<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>	3 to 10
<b>Total number of places</b>	26
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	59
<b>Name of registered person</b>	First Friends P.D.N. Limited
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP521575
<b>Telephone number</b>	01332 835 439
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	3 February 2017

## Information about this early years setting

First Friends After School Club registered in 2006. It is located in Oakwood, Derbyshire. The club employs four members of staff, three of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 2 or above, including one at level 3 and one at level 4. The club is open Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 9am and from 3.15pm until 6pm, during term time.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Vanessa Cuthbert

## 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 their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of staff working at the club.
- Parents and carers shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2023