

Inspection of Anouska's Kids Club

The Grove, Chandlers Cross, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 4TG

Inspection date: 20 February 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are welcomed into the nursery by warm and friendly staff. Staff take time to talk to parents following the weekend. They talk about how the children have been and if there is anything they should know before they start their day. This ensures information is consistently shared. Children separate from their main carers with ease, excitedly making their way to the main room.

Children are encouraged to have a positive attitude to learning. They make free choices about toys they would like to play with in certain parts of each room. For example, toddlers choose what they would like to play with on the carpet. In the pre-school room, children enjoy helping to set out an activity, ready to access later in the afternoon. They enjoy the sense of responsibility this gives them.

Babies create firm attachments with the staff team. They look to staff for comfort and physical contact when a visitor arrives in the room. Staff talk to babies constantly, exposing them to a wide range of spoken language. Children smile happily as staff sings songs to them. Staff use toy farm animals as props, encouraging children to repeat animal noises back to them.

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

- Across the nursery children learn the skills required to be independent. Younger babies independently drink their milk from their bottle, while older children begin to feed themselves. In the pre-school room, children manage their own personal hygiene, wiping their own noses and putting their tissues in the bin. Staff in each room help the children to learn the independence skills required for the next step in their learning journey.
- Children self-select books from the wide range available, sharing them with staff and talking about the stories. This helps children develop a love of books. Older children learn the names of different parts of books, including the spine and the title. Children proudly answer 'author' when asked the name of the person who writes the books.
- The nursery works hard to build relationships with other settings that children attend. Staff share progress reports regularly to ensure both settings are supporting gaps in children's learning. The nursery goes over and above to support transitions to school. They provide parents with detailed knowledge on school readiness. There is an information evening planned to support this further.
- Staff understand the individual needs of each child. They have good knowledge of their key children's next steps in their learning. Throughout the nursery, there are resources that provide challenge for children, including balance bikes and trikes. However, staff do not always have the skills and knowledge to extend

children's learning during free play.

- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported. Staff use their knowledge of child development to identify additional needs early. Staff work effectively with professionals and parents to create clear plans to support children's learning and development. Parents praise the work staff do to support their children and commend the progress their children make.
- Children's behaviour is generally good across the nursery. Children have a good understanding of the nursery routine and know what they need to do in each part of their day. However, at times, staff do not consistently reinforce their expectations of children's behaviour. Therefore, children are not always clear if what they are doing is right or wrong.
- Parents highly recommend the nursery and return with siblings. They talk of the staffs 'intuitive nature' in meeting their children's needs. Parents state that their children are very happy at the nursery and enjoy the time they spend there.
- The manager and provider strive to provide the best provision they can. Staff's practice is regularly evaluated, and staff are supported and offered training to develop their knowledge. Staff feel valued and supported both professionally and personally. They are highly motivated and talk proudly of the love they have for their job.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff have secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. They understand the procedure for reporting any concerns they may have, and are confident to contact other professionals as needed. Safeguarding training is completed as part of staff inductions and is a prime focus of conversations and meetings between staff and management. There are high levels of security in the nursery, for example a camera entry system is used to identify who is at the door to collect children. The manager regularly checks staff's on-going suitability to work with children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- build on the good levels of teaching to extend learning opportunities during free play, to enable children to reach their full potential
- support staff to consistently help all children to fully understand behavioural expectations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY290408
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10264690
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	81
Number of children on roll	119
Name of registered person	Ralph Trustees Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP524768
Telephone number	01923 296077
Date of previous inspection	22 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

Anouska's Kids Club registered in 2002. The club employs 30 members of childcare staff. Of these, 21 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above, including one who has qualified teacher status. The club opens from Monday to Friday, all year round and sessions are from 7.30am until 6.30pm. The club provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The club also provides term time only places and a holiday club open from 8.am till 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lisa Smith

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 managers joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The manager and the inspector carried out two joint observations during an activity in different rooms.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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