

Inspection of Junior Adventures Group @ Hatfield AL10

Community Free School, Briars Lane, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL10 8ES

Inspection date:

18 May 2023

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Not Met (with actions)

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Overall, children enjoy their time at the club. However, the organisation of the club does not consistently meet the needs of the children. On arrival, the children have access to minimal activities and resources. Noise levels rise, some older children run around the room, and staff struggle to manage children's behaviour. Staff raise their voice to gain the children's attention. Additionally, staff do not always provide children with alternative activities if they do not want to participate in planned, adult-led activities. This means some children wander around, sit to the side, or take themselves to the corner of the room.

Nevertheless, children happily arrive at the club and are greeted by welcoming staff. They demonstrate that they are familiar with the club's routines, such as knowing where to place their personal belongings on arrival. Once the children begin to settle, staff organise activities to engage the children. Younger children enjoy the company of their older peers. They play alongside one another and respond to challenges set by the staff. For example, they are encouraged to make a model within a designated time and out of only 25 construction pieces. This makes the activity fun and sustains the children's attention.

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

- The club is currently going through a period of transition. The previous manager has recently left, and the provider is in the process of recruiting a new manager for this role.
- Since the last inspection, steps have been taken to make improvements. For example, children are now supervised appropriately, and risk assessment procedures have been reviewed and new procedures implemented. This minimises risks within the environment and supports the children to stay safe. However, while children happily attend, further improvement is required to ensure that the organisation of the club consistently meets the children's needs. This includes children's access to a wider range of activities and strategies to manage children's behaviour.
- Induction and supervision procedures have also been revised since the inspection. This supports staff to understand their roles and responsibilities and provides opportunities to discuss future training needs.
- Children are provided with healthy food, such as fresh fruit and vegetables. Staff obtain information regarding any special dietary requirements, preferences and food allergies, and ensure that they adhere to this information accordingly. However, after the children's snack is prepared, it is left uncovered for a period of time before it is served to the children. This does not prevent the risk of cross-contamination. Some of the fruit, such as the apples, begin to turn brown.

This does not promote the children's good health.

- Young children enjoy colouring activities and are encouraged to draw pictures. They proudly share their drawings with the staff who show a genuine interest and praise the children for their achievements.
- Children enjoy being physically active in the fresh air. Younger children listen and learn to follow the rules of games as they complete challenges against their older peers. They enhance their physical and co-ordination skills as they kick footballs to one another and roll hoops across the school playground.
- Staff develop appropriate relationships with the children and join in their play. Young children have a designated key person. Staff effectively communicate with staff at the school and with the children's parents. A range of useful information about the group is accessible on the company's website.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Management ensures that all staff understand safeguarding policies and procedures. Staff have attended safeguarding training. They can describe the signs that might indicate a child is at risk of harm, including safeguarding issues, such as radicalisation. Additionally, staff understand the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child in their care. This includes the whistle-blowing procedures they should follow if they have a concern about a colleague. All staff are subject to appropriate checks to ensure that they are suitable to work with children.

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
make sure the organisation of the club consistently meets the needs of the children attending	30/06/2023
improve strategies to manage children's behaviour	30/06/2023
ensure the good health of children by ensuring that food prepared for them, is suitable to eat.	30/06/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	2566748
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10258237
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	5 to 11
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	220
Name of registered person	Junior Adventures Group UK Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP901001
Telephone number	07803 887610
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2022

Information about this early years setting

Junior Adventures Group at Hatfield AL10 registered in 2020 and operates from The Community Free School in Hatfield. The group operates from Monday to Friday. It offers a breakfast club from 7.45am to 8.45am, after-school care from 3pm to 6pm, and a holiday club. The group employs three members of childcare staff.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Ann Austen

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector took a tour of the club with a staff member. They talked about how the club is organised, the play opportunities provided for the children and risk assessment procedures.
- The inspector observed staff's interactions with the children during indoor and outdoor activities.
- The staff team and children engaged in discussions with the inspector at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- A sample of documents were reviewed by the inspector. This included evidence of the staff's suitability.

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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