

Inspection of Cheeky Monkeys Out of School Club

Elder Lane, Burntwood, Staffordshire WS7 9BT

Inspection date: 5 July 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 are completely at ease as they confidently arrive at the out-of-school club. They are happy and settled. They have strong bonds with staff, who they also see in school during the school day. Children quickly become immersed in a wide range of interesting play activities. These have been thoughtfully prepared by staff, who consider children's current interests. Children have fun with their friends and thoroughly enjoy club activities.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are excellent role models to their friends. They help each other and are sensitive to others' feelings. For example, they talk about the boundaries of a role-play game so that everyone is clear about the rules. Older children teach younger children new skills, for example, as they play a game of chess. They work together to solve problems, for example, as they allocate roles during the school role play.

Staff support children's independence extremely well. Children self-serve snacks of fruit, cheese and crackers. They make themselves toast with a toaster and wash plates and cups afterwards. They decide when they want to eat and drink, because these healthy and nutritious snacks are readily available throughout the session.

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

- Staff nurture an environment where children have every opportunity to talk about their feelings and have a voice. For example, children self-register on arrival and choose where to put their sticker on a feelings board. They select resources from a basket containing toys that support mindfulness. They have quiet times in comfy areas, where they can talk with staff about their day in school. They actively contribute to floor books and newsletters where they record what they love to do at their club.
- Staff enable children to make choices and decisions about what they want to do. Children choose from the excellent range of activities that staff have thoughtfully planned. In addition, they know that they can change activities and swap resources if they wish to. They are fully involved in these play opportunities, alongside their friends.
- Leaders and staff work seamlessly as a team to make sure that the ethos of this out-of-school club is visible on a daily basis. They know what is important for the children attending and ensure that this is threaded through the daily opportunities on offer. There is a strong focus on children making choices, developing skills and gaining independence. As a result, children are happy, relaxed, focused and busy. Furthermore, they are confident and independent.
- Parents speak highly of the provision. They feel reassured that their children are

happy and have a good time while at the club. They comment that their children often don't want to leave. Information is shared between staff and parents verbally at the end of the session when children are collected.

- Partnership working with the primary school is strong. The club is based in the school hall and uses adjacent rooms and outdoor play spaces. Club staff work in school during the school day. This helps ensure that there is good communication between staff, the headteacher and class teachers to support children's well-being.
- The club promotes inclusion. Leaders have systems in place to gather information from parents and the school about children's individual needs. The manager and staff understand the importance of working in partnership with parents and other professionals to provide children with any extra support they may need. Staff know children well, because they also work in the school during the day.
- Leaders discuss how they ensure that all staff are suitable to work with the children at the club. Staff access training and support regularly so they have an up-to-date knowledge of various subjects, including safeguarding. All staff know the steps they should take if they have a concern about a child's welfare. Staff assess risks and prepare age-appropriate activities for the children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Managers and staff understand their role and responsibility to keep children safe. They have up-to-date safeguarding knowledge, because they access training regularly. They understand the procedures to follow if they have a concern about a child's welfare. They know the signs and symptoms of abuse and other safeguarding issues, for example radicalisation and extremism. The premises are secure, and carefully considered procedures for parents to collect their children ensure children's safety. For example, parents stay in the foyer area, which has electronically locked doors, and their children are taken to them. Staff are deployed effectively so that children are safe and supervised as they play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY471324
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10295508
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 10
Total number of places	38
Number of children on roll	88
Name of registered person	Cheeky Monkeys OSC Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP905993
Telephone number	
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2017

Information about this early years setting

Cheeky Monkeys Out of School Club registered in 2013. The club is operated by a private provider and is situated in Highfields Primary School in Burntwood, Staffordshire. The club employs three members of childcare staff, of whom one holds qualified teacher status, and two hold an appropriate qualification at level 3. The club operates from Monday to Friday, during term time, and for two weeks during the summer holidays. The club provides before-school sessions from 8am until 8.55am and after-school sessions from 3pm until 5.30pm. The club operates between 8am and 5.30pm during school summer holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Juliette Freeman

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 looked at relevant documentation and records. She checked evidence of the suitability of all managers and staff working in the out-of-school club.
- The inspector spoke to children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector held a meeting with the out-of-school club manager and also spoke to 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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