

Inspection of Fireflies childcare

The Cavendish School, Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE

Inspection date: 10 July 2023

**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 thoroughly enjoy their time at this welcoming, homely club. Staff form positive relationships with the children and help them to settle in easily. Children quickly unwind in the friendly and relaxed club environment after their busy day at school. They choose from a selection of well-planned activities and confidently follow their own interests. Children of mixed ages socialise particularly well together. Older children are kind and attentive to their younger friends. Younger children develop resilience from being around caring older children. For example, one child confidently demonstrated to an older child how to fold paper to make a model aeroplane.

Children are happy and enthusiastically explain how much they enjoy attending the club. Staff listen to their ideas well and involve them fully in making important decisions. For instance, when leaders are recruiting new staff, they consult with children and consider their views. Staff have high expectations of children and actively encourage them to try new things. This helps to promote positive self-esteem. For example, older children are challenged to negotiate the obstacles in the playground 'trim trail' under close supervision. Their efforts are acknowledged and actively celebrated, so that each child feels valued and proud of their achievements.

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

- Leaders work hard to constantly review the provision and make continuous improvements. The provider works tirelessly to support her staff and develop their skills and practice. Staff benefit from a wealth of training that gives them the knowledge they need to deliver a high-quality service. The manager leads a dedicated team that knows the children well and provides a range of enjoyable activities. Regular audits contribute to a detailed improvement plan. This makes sure the setting is consistently compliant and any development points are quickly recognised. The headteacher of the school praises the level of provision the club offers.
- Children develop important social skills to support their future development. They are polite and courteous to one another and respect each other's differing needs. At supper time, children take responsibility for laying the tables and serving food to their friends. Staff encourage good table manners and remind children that they must not leave the table until everyone has finished. Children fully understand these routines and behave exceptionally well.
- Staff use activities well to help children reflect on their behaviour and the impact it has on others. For example, every day at suppertime, children talk about what they are thankful for. Children praise the actions of others and speak about how

things make them feel. This encourages children to be mindful of the needs of others and consider how they can adapt their behaviour to help others.

- Children enjoy a range of activities, both inside and outside. They benefit from the school's extensive facilities and talk to staff about what they would like to do. At present, children are completing activities based on the theme of animals. On the day of inspection, children became engrossed in making model flamingos out of paper cups. They had to think carefully about how to form the legs to make the model stand up unsupported. Staff encouraged children well to use their problem-solving skills and a range of different tools and resources to successfully achieve this.
- Partnerships with parents and the host school are good. Information about children's well-being is shared effectively between all parties, and communication is clear. This means that any information about a child is passed on quickly. Children follow consistent routines between the club and school, which helps them feel emotionally secure.
- Staff are vigilant in supporting children's health and well-being. They provide a nutritious range of snacks and meals that are planned carefully to take account of children's individual dietary needs. During hot weather, children are reminded to wear sun hats and to apply sun cream before going outside. Children manage this well. They independently help themselves to drinking water regularly, knowing they must stay hydrated in the heat.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety is given the highest priority. Stringent procedures are in place to ensure that all staff fully understand their role in keeping children safe and reporting any concerns about their welfare promptly. Staff are appropriately trained in first aid and safeguarding. There are robust arrangements in place to make sure relevant routines are in place for different emergency situations. Leaders follow rigorous vetting procedures to check the suitability of staff. The school building has been carefully risk assessed to make sure any potential hazards are minimised and children are consistently kept safe and secure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2646552
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10295788
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	32
Number of children on roll	60
Name of registered person	Diaper, Emily Jane
Registered person unique reference number	RP535773
Telephone number	07392848736
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Fireflies Childcare has been registered since 2021. It operates from the primary school part of Cavendish School in Eastbourne, East Sussex. It opens Monday to Friday, during term time, and offers care before school from 7.30am to 8.40am, and after-school care from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. A team of six staff members works with the children, four of whom are qualified to degree level.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jo Caswell

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 met with the provider and manager and discussed how the club is run and how children are kept safe.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they enjoy doing at the club.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about their role, the training they have completed and what they do to keep children safe.
- The inspector observed the interactions between children and staff.
- The provider showed the inspector some documentation, including proof that staff are suitable to work with children, first aid training certificates and the records for safeguarding.

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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