

Inspection of Playsafe Ltd

South Gosforth First School, Alnmouth Drive, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE3 1YF

Inspection date:

16 October 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 arrive happily and receive a warm and caring welcome from familiar staff. They develop close relationships with staff, who know them well. This helps children to feel safe and secure. Children are enthusiastic and settle quickly to listen to a story. They confidently engage, sharing their ideas and often finishing off the sentence. Children relish their time outdoors. They use their imaginations as they run after their friends pretending to be ghosts. Children are curious and ask the inspector what she is doing and are keen to share what they like about the club. They talk excitedly about how they can write their name. They demonstrate this by carefully using the chalk to form the correct letter shapes.

Children make choices about what they like to do during their time at the club. Some choose to relax and look at books or use a range of construction materials for building models. Children are keen to learn new skills. For example, with help from staff they begin to learn the rules of chess. They learn that each chess piece moves in a different way and hear new vocabulary, such as diagonal and opposite. Children behave well. They play cooperatively with their friends, and staff are always alert to, and acknowledge, their acts of kindness.

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

- The managers and staff work well together as a team and create an environment where children feel welcome. They both ensure that the club is organised effectively to meet the needs of the children. Before new children start at the club, staff gather key information from parents, which enables them to cater for children's needs and interests. Staff know each child well. They consult with them regularly about the activities and toys they like to play with.
- Staff engage in meaningful conversations with children and listen intently to them as they speak with confidence and excitement about their school day. Staff recognise when children may need some extra encouragement to join in, and their ongoing support helps children to grow in confidence.
- Children's health and physical development are promoted well. They have good opportunities to spend time outdoors and thoroughly enjoy the time spent in the playground. The youngest children enjoy being physical and exerting their energy. They practise their balancing skills, stepping and jumping between tyres. Others focus as they roll hoops in a straight line.
- Children learn about the importance of managing their own personal care and the benefits of exercise and healthy eating. Staff are fully aware of children's different dietary needs and ensure that food provided is healthy and nutritious. Mealtimes are a social occasion with lots of conversation. Staff have given some consideration to how children can become involved in the preparation and

serving of food and drinks. However, plans have not yet been implemented, to help promote children's independence even further.

- The managers provide staff with supervision opportunities to reflect on their performance and provide them with support. Staff comment that they feel well supported by the managers. They comment that they are encouraged to access frequent training and professional development opportunities. This helps them to understand their role and responsibilities, with regard to keeping children safe.
- Parents report that their children are happy and settled at the club. They like the variety of activities on offer, especially the arts and crafts. Parents say they like the feedback they receive about what their children have been doing. They feel that the staff really care about the children and keep them safe.
- Partnerships with the school are strong. Communication is key and there is a regular exchange of information between the club, parents and school. Staff liaise with school staff as needed, to ensure that there is a consistent approach to supporting children and meeting their individual needs.
- Managers are ambitious. They use every opportunity to reflect on the club's strengths and to develop further actions for what they still want to achieve. This approach is successful in continuing to raise the overall quality of the club. Managers and staff remain focused on providing a safe space for children to become confident and positive learners.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The managers and staff attend regular safeguarding training. They know about the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. They are confident with the procedure to follow should they have concerns about a child's welfare. Staff are aware of the duty to prevent children from being drawn into situations that put them at risk. The premises are secure, so that children cannot leave unsupervised and unwanted visitors cannot gain access. Staff carry out effective risk assessments of the building and outside area before children arrive to help minimise potential risks in the premises.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY384328
Local authority	Newcastle upon Tyne
Inspection number	10307881
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	3 to 9
Total number of places	100
Number of children on roll	187
Name of registered person	Playsafe Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP905378
Telephone number	07517258818
Date of previous inspection	29 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

Playsafe Ltd registered in 2008. The setting employs 10 members of childcare staff. Of these, seven hold appropriate early years qualifications from level 2 or higher. The setting opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.45am until 9am and 3.15pm until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the setting and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector held a discussion with the managers in relation to the leadership and management of the club. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of recruitment, staff's qualifications and their suitability to work with children.
- The inspector spoke to parents, children and staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's interactions in play indoors and outdoors and discussed the activities provided for them with 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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