

Inspection of Holiday Zone

Wilmslow Preparatory School, 7 Grove Avenue, WILMSLOW, Cheshire SK9 5EG

Inspection date:

25 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

Staff have created a welcoming environment for children. The provision is set up with well-considered resources, which capture the interests of children. Staff are respectful and nurturing towards children. This supports children to learn how to be kind and considerate to their friends. Children play well together. They mix with other children of different ages and from different schools during the holidays. Staff ensure that children have ample opportunity to play outside and get daily fresh air and exercise. Children learn how to keep themselves healthy, including how to dress appropriately and keep warm in the cold weather. For example, wearing coats and running in the outdoor area to increase their heart rates and warm themselves up.

Staff support children to take responsibility for the provision. Children help to tidy up before moving between the inside and outside environment. Staff get to know the children well. During the school holidays, staff work with children from different provisions. However, they take the time to establish relationships with each child and learn about their individual needs. This means that staff can support children and their emotional well-being from the start.

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

- Staff plan exciting activities for children to get involved in. Children access a secure woodlands area, where they can explore nature. Staff support some children to work together as a team to make a 'witches' potion'. With the help of staff, they cut pumpkins and mix these with other materials, such as soap and items gathered from the outdoor area. Other children enjoy going on a nature hunt. This supports children's physical skills and helps to establish positive attitudes towards their development.
- Staff interact well with children. They hold meaningful back-and-forth conversations with children. This supports children's growing vocabulary and their communication and language skills. Children enjoy chatting with their friends and engage in different imaginative and creative play. Children are expanding their growing vocabulary through their play.
- Staff support children to follow the club rules. At times, children need gentle reminders from staff about how their behaviour impacts on others. Staff explain to children why they are being asked to do certain things, such as lining up before they move between the inside and outside, so that headcounts can be carried out as part of the safety checks. This encourages children to behave in a positive way.
- Staff are always close by to assist children in their play. They guide children during activities to support them to have a go and to try new things. However,

on rare occasions some children do not fully engage in the planned activities and, at times, get distracted.

- Leaders and staff have secure systems in place for evaluating the provision and reflecting on practice. They identify when things are no longer working and make adaptations to routines and activities to ensure that children's needs are being met.
- Staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of how to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities well. They ensure that they are aware of what makes each child unique and that they meet children's care and learning needs.
- Staff support children to learn about what makes them similar and different to their peers and the wider community. They help children to learn about and understand different cultures and ways of life to their own. This helps prepare children for the diverse world around them.
- Leaders and staff share key information with parents about what children have been involved in while spending time at the provision. They ensure that there is a two-way flow of information between themselves and the schools that children attend. This helps ensure the needs of children are met.
- Leaders support staff through regular supervision meetings and team meetings. This ensures that any training needs are identified and the professional development of staff is tailored to ensure that they are able to meet children's individual needs. Staff comment that they feel supported by leaders. Consequently, staff feel valued and enthusiastic in their roles.
- Following a recent incident involving an injury to a child, the provider has reviewed and strengthened risk assessments. These have informed staff practice. Staff are aware of areas where children should not be unsupervised and additional safety measures have been implemented to remove or minimise hazards.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders and staff have a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection. They are aware of the potential signs and symptoms of abuse and how to correctly report any concerns regarding the welfare of children. Leaders and staff are aware of how to correctly report allegations relating to another member of staff. Staff are trained in paediatric first aid and have a secure knowledge and understanding of how to deal with emergencies. Leaders have implemented new systems for notifying parents of accidents to ensure that this information is shared promptly. Staff carry out regular safety checks of the environment and include children in identifying and managing risks.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY467608 |
| Local authority | Cheshire East |
| Inspection number | 10310035 |
| 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 | 32 |
| Number of children on roll | 212 |
| Name of registered person | Cheshire Childcare Alliance Ltd |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP911244 |
| Telephone number | 07805 269443 |
| Date of previous inspection | 23 February 2018 |

Information about this early years setting

Holiday Zone registered in 2013. The club employs five members of staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds qualified teacher status. The club opens from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm during school holidays and 4.10pm until 6.30pm during term time.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Suzanne Fenwick

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.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the provision.
- The inspector took account of parents' views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.

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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