

Inspection of Stay and Play

Aldrington C Of E Primary School, Eridge Road, Hove BN3 7QD

Inspection date:

22 February 2024

**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 safely collected from school by the friendly and caring staff. On arrival to the club, children know where to place their personal belongings and they quickly settle to play with items of their choice. For example, they enjoy playing with toy animals, drawing or reading books together. Staff help new children to feel settled and secure. For instance, they sensitively check that they are happy throughout their stay at the club.

Staff consider children's ideas and suggestions, when planning activities to provide. As a result, children eagerly join in with a variety of play ideas and they behave very well. For instance, they concentrate for long periods of time when they design their own art work. Older children show their younger friends how to effectively use the colouring pens. Children proudly show staff and visitors the pictures they have created, such as butterflies and horses. They know where they can safely leave these before taking them home to share with their families. This contributes to enhancing children's self-esteem.

Children enjoy being physically active. They have fun playing ball games outdoors and in the school hall. This helps to support children's health and well-being. They show an awareness of others around them, such as including younger children in football games.

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

- The provider and the majority of the staff work with children in the school during the day. They know the children's unique personalities well and are sensitive to their feelings. Staff provide caring attitudes towards them. For instance, staff listen attentively to children and get down to their level. Children respond well to the staff and show that they feel comfortable and settled. This supports children's emotional well-being.
- The provider is very experienced and is extremely efficient in organising the club. There is a secure recruitment procedure in place and staff have ongoing supervision meetings to discuss their work, children's welfare and training needs. Some staff are completing higher qualifications. They effectively use knowledge gained, such as implementing dance and music ideas, to support children's physical development.
- Staff engage children in thoughtful conversations to help support their communication skills. For example, discussions take place about the toy animals that children are playing with. Children take turns describing their play and confidently talk about what they are doing. This helps to support children's thoughts and ideas.

- Staff support children to develop an awareness of a healthy lifestyle. Mealtimes are social occasions where children chatter and share their news about their day. Children enjoy helping to prepare peppers and melons to share with their friends. They are provided with drinks of milk or water to quench their thirst.
- Staff engage very well with children and talk to them about how to keep themselves safe during their play. For example, there are clear safety strategies in place for when children play computer games at the club. However, the provider acknowledges that they could extend children's awareness of keeping safe when they are using online resources outside of the setting.
- Children say that they like coming to the club and that they have fun playing. They show a keen interest in learning how to play chess. Staff discuss the pieces on the chess board and talk about the rules of the game. Children concentrate for sustained periods of time, working out where to place their pieces on the board. They take turns in their play and children also say that they like making craft items and playing outdoors.
- Staff have a close relationship with teachers in the school. They share information about the children's needs and work together to help meet these. They share the same high expectations for children's behaviour and conduct. Any issues are sensitively managed. As a result, children receive consistent messages and show consideration towards each other.
- Parents appreciate the service provided to them. Staff provide an inclusive service and work with parents to aim to meet children's specific needs. The provider has a close working relationship with other agencies who support families. She provides this information to parents as necessary.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY497470
Local authority	Brighton and Hove
Inspection number	10317252
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	45
Number of children on roll	591
Name of registered person	Stay And Play Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	RP903076
Telephone number	01273542656
Date of previous inspection	11 May 2018

Information about this early years setting

Stay and Play registered in 2016. It operates from Aldrington Primary School. It provides after-school care during term time only from 3.10 pm to 6pm, and the holiday scheme operates during holiday time from 8.30am to 3.30pm. The club employs eight members of staff. They all hold relevant childcare qualifications between level 2 and 4.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Maura Pigram

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 had a tour of the club. She spoke to the provider and staff, and discussed how they organise and evaluate their provision.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of staff and sampled a range of documentation, such as safeguarding arrangements, employment procedures and first-aid certificates.
- Children and parents shared their views with the inspector. She took these into consideration.
- The provider and the inspector discussed children's activities and the impact of these on their development.
- The inspector observed children's interactions with staff and monitored their engagement in a range of play opportunities, indoors and outside.

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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