

# Inspection of Vital Play

Archdeacon Cambridge's Church of England Primary School, The Green,  
TWICKENHAM TW2 5TU

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Inspection date:

11 March 2024

**The quality and  
standards of early  
years provision**

**This  
inspection**

**Met**

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Previous  
inspection

Not applicable

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### This provision meets requirements

Staff warmly welcome children to this well-organised club. As a result, children are happy and settled. They show they are familiar with the routine and quickly hang up their coats and bags before joining the rest of the group. Staff support children to develop their independence skills well. For example, they provide a fruit snack on arrival, which children competently peel and place into a bowl. Staff support children with good hygiene practices and encourage them to wash and dry their hands before and after meals. Children learn the benefits of a healthy lifestyle when they are reminded, for example, to use soap as they wash their hands.

Staff implement rules and routines that support children to know what is expected of them. For instance, staff raise their arms to gain children's attention. Children stop what they are doing and raise their arms in response. As a result of these clear expectations, children behave exceptionally well and there is a sense of calm at the club. Children say that they love attending the club and that they have lots of friends. They talk to visitors about activities they enjoy, such as arts and crafts and playing outside. Children say that staff are friendly and funny.

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

- Staff plan a good range of exciting activities with children's requests and interests in mind. Children happily choose where they wish to play. For example, staff organise the environment so that children have quiet areas to relax, away from busier areas where children actively take part in art and craft activities.
- The manager leads an effective team. Staff are highly motivated to provide a good experience for children. The manager meets with them before the club opens and at the end of each session to review the daily provision. They evaluate the provision effectively and consider any changes. The manager gathers feedback from staff, parents and children on ways to improve the club. This helps to ensure improvements in the quality of service the club provides.
- Staff celebrate children's achievements, which helps to boost their self-esteem. For example, staff respond enthusiastically when children thread beads onto string to make complex patterns. Children confidently delight in sharing these with others.
- Staff develop close bonds with their key children. They know them well and listen to children with interest about their day at school. Staff engage children in meaningful back-and-forth conversations.
- Staff say that they enjoy working at the club and feel well supported by leaders. For example, they say they have access to various training courses to build on their existing knowledge. Staff benefit from regular supervision meetings to discuss any issues or to plan training opportunities.

- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents are extremely happy with the service and describe the club as an 'absolutely amazing provision'. They say that the level of care and creativity that goes into the programme, and the individual support that each child receives, is phenomenal. Parents comment that their children do not want to leave the club when they arrive to take them home.
- Staff at the club work closely with the host school. They work in partnership to establish how they can meet children's individual needs and provide continuity of care. This includes sharing information about children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, so they can effectively meet their needs.
- Staff use all areas of the on-site school to provide exciting opportunities to enhance children's time at the club. For example, children have access to the school library for reading and quieter activities. They are able to use the adjoining garden area to find out about nature and the natural world.
- Staff ensure that children stay safe. They remind children about road safety when they walk to the club from another school. Leaders have assessed the safest route to the club to minimise the risks to children at the busiest times of the day. Staff accompany children around the school, when necessary, so children can access all areas safely.

## **Safeguarding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	2644005
<b>Local authority</b>	Richmond Upon Thames
<b>Inspection number</b>	10332967
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childcare on non-domestic premises
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Out-of-school day care
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	4 to 11
<b>Total number of places</b>	70
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	95
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Vital Play C.I.C.
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	2644003
<b>Telephone number</b>	02036502199
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

Vital Play was registered in 2021 and is an after-school provision. It is independently run and is situated in the grounds of Archdeacon Cambridge's Church of England Primary School in Twickenham, in the London Borough of Richmond. The club employs nine members of staff. Of these, seven staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. It operates each weekday, from 3pm to 6.30pm, during term time.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Louise Drewett

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the club 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 club.
- The inspector and the provider took a tour of the club. They discussed how the club is organised and the play opportunities provided for children.
- The inspector considered the written views of parents.
- The inspector looked at relevant documents, including evidence of the suitability of all staff.
- The inspector spoke to staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's interactions with staff and monitored their engagement in a range of play activities, indoors and outdoors.

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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