

Inspection of Chuckles (UK) Ltd

Hutton All Saints C of E Primary School, Claughton Way, Hutton, BRENTWOOD,
Essex CM13 1JW

Inspection date: 17 April 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

Happy and attentive staff collect children from school. They take great care to get to know the children well before they attend and are genuinely pleased to see the children. Staff show kindness and compassion as they talk respectfully to the children about their day at school. Children are offered gentle reminders to ensure they have all their belongings and are happy and excited to see the staff as they arrive at the club. The manager and her team ensure the cosy rooms are prepared ready and welcoming on arrival. The very youngest children are settled and confident. They are fully supported and integrated in all the club activities. An effective key-person system is in place, although all staff speak knowledgeably about all children attending.

Staff and children have established trusting bonds and children understand the high expectations of the staff. Children make friendships and are kind and thoughtful to one another. The club offers two bright and cheerful rooms. Children's artwork is celebrated and displayed, creating a sense of belonging. Older children have use of one room and access a wide range of fun activities. Younger children use a dedicated room and have opportunities to relax comfortably or if they feel tired following their day at school. The staff are good role models and there is a calm and homely atmosphere. Children's behaviour is good.

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

- Positive working relationships with the host school have been established. Daily discussions, if required, with the class teacher take place on collection of the children. The headteacher speaks positively of the team of staff and the value of the club. Meetings are planned with the school when needed to discuss continuity of care and any additional support required for children and communication is strong.
- A key-person system is in place for those children in the early years. Therefore, children build secure, warm attachments with familiar adults. There is a strong focus on children's emotional well-being and staff ensure good links with parents enable them to get to know the whole family. All children demonstrate they feel safe and secure. They are confident and happily engage visitors to the club in conversation and their games.
- Children say they enjoy their time at the club. Activities are provided to reflect their interests and requests. They confidently discuss what they like to do at the club. They show sustained concentration as they sit at chosen activities, such as 'hammer beads', and chat and giggle among themselves.
- Children are encouraged to make choices and the staff listen and respond to children's requests. A wide range of good-quality resources are easily accessible

to them so that they can initiate their own games. However, outdoor play is also very popular. Children have ample opportunity for fresh air and to 'let off steam' after a day at school as they run and play games on the school field. They negotiate space well and organise teams for football. Staff are skilful in their interactions and are very attentive and supportive.

- Parents are keen to speak with the inspector to express their gratitude for the excellent care the club offers their children. Parents speak positively about all aspects of the club. They comment that staff are kind and caring and know their children well. They say communication is excellent and their children are very happy to attend. They feel completely reassured their children are in 'safe hands' while having lots of fun.
- Children are offered a variety of healthy snacks. Robust procedures are fully understood by all staff, and this means children's individual dietary needs are respected and well managed. Children choose from a selection of fruits, yoghurt and crumpets as they sit chatting to their friends. They are very familiar with the routines and understand the need to wash their hands before they join the snack table.
- The owner is very hands on and there is a strong, effective team of staff. The team is fully aware of its role and responsibilities, and the club runs seamlessly. Staff speak with enthusiasm and say they feel valued and supported in their role. They are positively encouraged to continue with their own professional development. Staff retention is good. Therefore, children are provided with continuity of care.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | EY456202 |
| Local authority | Essex |
| Inspection number | 10335313 |
| 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 | 5 to 11 |
| Total number of places | 32 |
| Number of children on roll | 43 |
| Name of registered person | Chuckles (UK) Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP909331 |
| Telephone number | 07850 526142 |
| Date of previous inspection | 12 June 2018 |

Information about this early years setting

Chuckles (UK) Ltd registered in 2012. The club opens Monday to Friday during term time from 7.30am to 9am and 3pm to 6pm. It employs six members of childcare staff, three of whom hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and one holds qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lynn Hartigan

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting has 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 setting.
- The owner showed the inspector around the club and explained how the play environment is organised.
- The inspector had several discussions with the owner to explore leadership and management issues. The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the provider's documentation, including training certificates.
- Parents told the inspector what they thought about the provision and staff, and their views were considered.
- The children told the inspector what they like to do when they are at the club.

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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