

# Inspection of Ready Steady Play

The Willows Primary School, Victoria Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 6PP

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Inspection date: 26 April 2024

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

**This inspection**

**Met**

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Previous inspection

Outstanding

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

### **This provision meets requirements**

The highly inspirational staff team create a play environment that oozes awe and wonder. The atmosphere buzzes with children's excitement. Everywhere you look children are immersed in deep play. Children are excited to see staff as soon as they arrive at this vibrant club. They share what they have been learning in school and embrace staff with cuddles. Staff are excellent role models. They teach children about being kind and respectful. Children are unwaveringly polite and courteous. They demonstrate impeccable behaviour.

Staff have a first-rate understanding of playwork. They have devised a play programme that complements children's learning from school. Staff include the views of children while planning activities. This gives children a strong sense of pride. Staff encourage children to take on new challenges. For example, they help children to learn how to ride bicycles. Children relish learning new skills and they are eager to help their friends. For instance, older children show younger children how to make friendship bracelets. A strong sense of teamwork and togetherness permeates throughout the club.

Staff support children's independence effectively. They encourage them to take care of their belongings. Children help to tidy toys away and put their own coats on. They develop the necessary skills in supporting them in their next steps in play.

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

- The manager leads the club with an absolute conviction that all children will thrive. She continually reflect on how to improve the club and aspire for excellence. For example, leaders use research to better understand how to meet children's emotional well-being. From this, they have organised play areas to reflect spaces of calm and tranquillity. This supports children to feel safe, secure and happy.
- Staff use what they know about children to plan exciting play experiences. Children cannot contain their excitement while choosing what to play with. They become enthralled while creating their own 'royal garden', using natural resources from outdoors. Younger children enjoy making 'magical crowns' and immerse themselves into imagination while enacting the roles of princesses.
- Partnership working is excellent. Links with the host primary school are built on mutual trust and respect. The headteacher commends staff for the brilliant service that they provide for children and their families. Leaders work closely with the local authority. Parents and carers are kept informed of their children's time at the club. They speak highly of the club and state that the service is 'phenomenal'.

- Staff teach children about the importance of healthy eating. Children have access to an abundance of fresh fruit and vegetables. They talk about the effects that certain foods can have on your body, such as how having too many sugary foods is not good for you. Staff support children to gain a good understanding of healthy living.
- Children are proud of who they are and where they come from. They have a secure understanding of their local community, including similarities and differences between themselves and others. Staff provide opportunities for children to learn about festivals and celebrations. Children talk about differences in culture and religion. They are well-rounded individuals who develop an early awareness of what life is like in modern Britain.
- Staff support children's love of the outdoors incredibly well. Children spend most of their time playing outside. They take part in fitness classes, football and ring games. Staff encourage children to develop their large-muscle skills while using climbing apparatus. Children show excellent physical dexterity.
- Children enjoy being creative. They sing songs and dance with their friends. Children spend time drawing and creating artwork for each other. Staff support children's imagination well. Children enjoy enacting the roles of superheroes and teachers. They pretend to make cakes and fascinate while travelling to a 'party island' outdoors.
- The support in place for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is excellent. Leaders work closely with parents, teachers and external professionals to ensure that barriers to play are removed. Children with SEND flourish at this superb club.

## **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>	EY295834
<b>Local authority</b>	Trafford
<b>Inspection number</b>	10335312
<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>	3 to 12
<b>Total number of places</b>	120
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	184
<b>Name of registered person</b>	Catherine Clare Legg & Helen Catherine Fahy Partnership
<b>Registered person unique reference number</b>	RP908999
<b>Telephone number</b>	07967429723
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	12 June 2018

## Information about this early years setting

Ready Steady Play registered in 2004 and is based in Altrincham, Manchester. The club employs 18 members of childcare staff. Of these, eight hold an early years qualification at level 3 and above. The club opens Monday to Friday, from 7.40am to 9am and 3.10pm to 6.05pm during term time, and from 7.40am to 6.10pm, Monday to Friday, during some school holidays.

## Information about this inspection

**Inspector**  
Luke Heaney

## 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 his evaluation of the club.
- The manager and the inspector had a learning walk around the club, to determine the organisation and planning of activities.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children as they engaged with activities. Relevant documentation was reviewed by the inspector, including evidence of the suitability and training of staff.
- The inspector held discussions with the provider, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation of a play activity with the manager.
- Parents and carers views were obtained by the inspector through discussions.

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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