

Inspection of The Strings Club - Harborne Holiday Camp (Hallfield School)

Hallfield School Trust, 48 Church Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3SJ

Inspection date: 15 July 2024

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children thrive in this warm and nurturing club. They happily play and chatter with each other, which enables them to build new friendships. Children are eager to learn how to play new instruments. Children's enthusiasm and passion for music are synchronised with the providers unique ethos.

Staff are committed to delivering high-quality experiences for children. They are experienced in teaching children new skills and show high expectations of every child who attends. Children are gradually introduced to a guitar. Staff show them how to hold it correctly and how to pluck the strings. They teach children the different components, such as the body, sound hole, tuning pegs and frets. Staff model these new words to children and allow children time to repeat them back. They show children how the guitar has six strings. Staff take time to explain that each string has a corresponding letter, and allow children time to practise using these. Children have a go at playing each of the six strings to the tune of a simple sentence that staff model. Children become deeply engaged and are keen to implement their new knowledge.

Children rapidly gain confidence during their time at the club, demonstrating their sense of security. They perform what they have learnt to staff, their peers and visitors. Staff give plenty of praise and encouragement, which helps to prepare children to perform in their weekly concert.

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

- Staff are kind and attentive towards children. They do their best to get to know every child. Staff gather information from parents about children's individual interests and needs before they start attending. They spend time observing children to find out what they like doing and what they are able to do. Staff use this information to plan and provide different opportunities for children so that they settle in and enjoy their time at the club.
- Children have ample opportunities to practise their physical skills in the exciting outdoor environment. They carefully climb steps and use a slide with confidence. Children take age-appropriate risks as they slide down a pole to lower themselves back to the ground, with staff remaining nearby to ensure their safety. Children practise their coordination skills through using skipping ropes and hitting a ball with a bat.
- Staff set very clear expectations for children's behaviour. They support children to learn how to handle equipment with care and respect. Children take turns to listen to each other play music and they wait patiently for their turn. Staff explain the importance of listening to children, so that they develop respect for

others.

- Between music lessons, children have plenty of time to make choices about their play. They choose from an array of activities. Children delight in using sand to make structures. They share their ideas with each other, such as adding water to the sand to make it stick. Children work together to solve problems as they complete complex jigsaw puzzles.
- The manager is dedicated to providing an inclusive service. She is knowledgeable about special educational needs and/or disabilities. The manager understands their duty to make reasonable adjustments for any child to attend. She knows what to do if there are any concerns about the behaviour or development of a child to secure them any extra help they may need.
- Children are supported to lead a healthy lifestyle. Staff encourage children to follow good hygiene procedures by washing their hands before handling food. They support children to make choices about what they should eat at snack time, and at the start of their lunch. This helps children understand how to manage their own health.
- Staff comment that they feel well supported in their roles because of the team around them. They receive weekly opportunities to meet with managers through a 'coffee chat' approach. Managers use these meetings to discuss staff's performance and any issues or concerns they may have. This helps to promote the safeguarding and interests of children.
- The provider is committed to ensuring that staff are highly effective in their roles. New staff receive thorough induction training which helps them to understand their roles and responsibilities. Staff access bespoke training days before any holiday club commences, which promotes their continued professional development and ensures the smooth running for children.

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 | 2689737 |
| Local authority | Birmingham |
| Inspection number | 10339095 |
| 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 | 40 |
| Number of children on roll | 12 |
| Name of registered person | The Strings Club Limited |
| Registered person unique reference number | RP534114 |
| Telephone number | 01212969204 |
| Date of previous inspection | Not applicable |

Information about this early years setting

The Strings Club - Harborne Holiday Camp (Hallfield School) registered in 2022. It is situated in Birmingham. The club opens Monday to Friday during school holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 5.30pm. The club employs four members of staff. Of these, the manager holds a qualification at level 6 and one member of staff holds a qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lisa Bennett

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 viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector observed children playing throughout the inspection and observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The manager and inspector carried out a joint observation of a planned music activity.
- The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and the manager and looked at relevant documentation and evidence of staff suitability.

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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