

Inspection of Staplehurst Summer Play Scheme

Staplehurst School, Gybbon Rise, Staplehurst, TONBRIDGE, Kent TN12 0LZ

Inspection date:

1 August 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 happy and enjoy attending the well-organised summer holiday club. The experienced staff team are sensitive to the needs of each child. They are quick to build relationships with the children, which supports children to feel secure. Children are confident and behave well. They approach staff to ask them to play table tennis and board games with them. Children who are new to the holiday club are carefully supported. Staff intervene if children are not engaged and encourage team games. This helps children form friendships quickly, and they enjoy time with their new friends.

During the day, staff plan breaks for the children to come together and socialise as a group. Children bring in healthy food to eat. Snack time is full of conversation with children laughing and telling jokes. They share what they have been doing and tell their friends about the delicious fruit kebabs they have made. Staff use this opportunity to discuss what is happening next. Children excitedly make plans before tidying up after themselves. There are always exciting outdoor activities offered, for example archery and multi-sports. Children spend time outside each day and enjoy plenty of fresh air and exercise.

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

- The holiday club offers children a large variety of fun activities. This includes a planned focus each day. For example, children can take part in a water and bubble day and go on bouncy castles. Children say that they enjoy the animal experience that visits each year. Children have fun and look forward to attending each day.
- Staff ensure that there is a well-balanced mixture of adult- and child-led activities. They carefully plan to encourage children to play independently and make choices. Some children work on creating their own life size paper person while others collaborate on decorating material to use for a den. Children love taking part in the daily craft activities. They are proud to take their creations home to share with their families.
- Staff constantly interact with the children and ask them what they would like to do. For example, children ask for the craft materials to remain out so that they can finish their artwork the next day. Children are confident to talk to staff and share their views.
- Children are friendly and their behaviour is really good. Staff remind them of the rules and apply them consistently. Children walk independently from the main hall to the field while a member of staff watches. Staff intervene swiftly to resolve arguments. For example, during a football match, the teams are uneven, so a member of staff joins in to help avoid a dispute.

- Staff take time to get to know children before the summer holiday scheme opens. They organise an open day in which families and children can visit the school site. Children benefit from meeting the staff team before they start and are confident to attend on their first day.
- Staff work in partnership with parents so that children with additional needs are well supported. Parents visit the holiday club and discuss their children's specific needs. For example, staff make sure that the room and activities are set out carefully to make sure that all children can access them. This helps all children benefit from the extensive activities that are on offer.
- Parents feedback about the professional and friendly nature of the holiday club. Children look forward to the days that they attend and ask their parents to book them in for more sessions. They like that there is a core team who work throughout so that there is always a person that they know and can speak to. This provides consistency of care for the children.
- Leaders use their extensive knowledge of working with children to ensure that they are safe. All staff take part in a robust induction process. This includes mandatory training on safeguarding. The manager conducts a thorough risk assessment before opening and throughout the day.

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	EY536061
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10346897
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	60
Number of children on roll	116
Name of registered person	Play Place Child Care Services Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP901701
Telephone number	07534 810779
Date of previous inspection	7 August 2018

Information about this early years setting

Staplehurst Summer Play Scheme registered in 2016. The playscheme is open for three weeks during the summer holidays. Opening hours during week one are from 9am to midday, during week two from 9am to 3pm, and during week three from 9am to 3pm. They operate Monday to Friday. There are eight staff allocated to the playscheme. Of these, one is a qualified teacher, one holds a childcare qualification at level 6 and two hold a qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jennie Winchcombe

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.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when at the summer holiday club.
- The inspector observed interactions between staff and children.
- The manager joined the inspector on a tour of the areas used by the provision.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.

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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