

Inspection of Woodcroft Academy Care Club

Staffordshire County Council, Woodcroft County First School, Wallbridge Drive, Leek
ST13 8JG

Inspection date:

4 October 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 look forward to their time at the club. They have plenty of space to relax with their friends after their school day. Staff are friendly and form good bonds with each child. Children settle quickly and feel secure. They choose from a variety of activities, such as arts and crafts, construction bricks and play dough. Staff are good role models. They support children to make the right choices and are on hand to praise children for their achievements when they share resources and use good manners. Children of all ages behave well and are kind toward each other.

Children are eager for staff to join their play and welcome their interactions. Staff are interested in what children are doing and engage in back-and-forth conversations. They take account of children's individual interests and complement the experiences children have in school. Staff create opportunities for children to make choices and plan activities. Children demonstrate high levels of independence, accessing the toys they want and getting their own belongings when it is home time. Staff take time to talk to teachers and gain any information they need to pass on to parents.

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

- Staff consider children's interests and ideas when planning their curriculum, which means children are eager to participate and remain focused in the activities offered. Staff provide interesting materials to enable children to develop their imagination and curiosity. For example, children spend time producing pictures of leaf rubbings and they talk confidently about mixing different colours.
- Staff get to know children well and develop strong attachments. This helps to boost children's confidence and supports them to benefit from their time at the club. Younger children have dedicated key staff who support their learning. The setting operates from one of the classrooms in the school. The staff team works hard to make children feel that this is a relaxed environment after their school day. Staff support children sensitively as they get used to the environment and routines.
- Staff plan a good range of physical activities for children and there are daily opportunities for outdoor play. Children use the school playground, where they can run, play football and engage in games that develop their stamina and physical skills. They learn to take turns and play cooperatively.
- Staff support children's developing self-care skills effectively and encourage good hygiene routines. They ensure children wash their hands at appropriate times and before eating. Staff provide a selection of healthy foods, encouraging children to learn to make healthy choices.

- Staff set high expectations for children's behaviour, providing them with clear and consistent boundaries. Children show familiarity with routines as they put away their coats and bags and quickly settle into their chosen activities. Staff work together well as a team, providing a calm and supportive environment for children. Children have a good understanding that boundaries are in place to keep them safe. Staff make a risk assessment of the premises and provide good supervision.
- Partnerships with parents and the host school are good. They all work together to ensure staff can meet children's individual needs. Parents are complimentary about the club. They say that their children are happy and eager to attend. They find the staff friendly and approachable. Parents appreciate the variety of activities that the staff provide. They feel well informed about what their children have eaten and the activities they have taken part in. Staff share information with parents to ensure good continuity of care for all children.
- Leaders demonstrate good oversight of the club and they regularly evaluate the quality of the provision. Staff receive a thorough induction to ensure that they are fully aware of their responsibilities. Leaders understand the importance of reflection and provide parents with questionnaires to gather their views and opinions of the club. Staff are supported in their roles and they benefit from ongoing supervision sessions that help to monitor their performance and support their well-being.

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	2770567
Local authority	Staffordshire
Inspection number	10366382
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	3 to 9
Total number of places	26
Number of children on roll	86
Name of registered person	Ministry Four All Sport Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2770569
Telephone number	01538 714796
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Woodcroft Academy Care Club registered in 2024 and operates in Leek, Staffordshire. The club employs five members of childcare staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am to 8.45am and 3.15pm to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the provider completed a learning walk across all areas of the setting to understand how the provision is organised.
- A joint observation of a teaching activity was carried out by the inspector and the provider.
- The inspector spoke to children, staff and parents at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the setting.
- A meeting was held between the inspector and the provider.

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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