

Inspection of Chillout Kids Club

Barn Mead Pavilion, Partridge Road, Goldsmiths, Harlow, Essex CM18 6TD

Inspection date:

18 August 2025

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

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Staff create an exciting and stimulating environment based on the ages, needs and interests of all children who attend. Children show that they are relaxed and feel comfortable as they make independent choices of what and where they would like to play. They thoroughly enjoy expressing their creativity with paint. Children use a variety of tools as well as their hands. This hands-on exploration not only sparks their imagination but also helps develop their fine motor skills. Those who wish to engage in more sedate activities, enjoy creating complex structures from small building blocks and play turn-taking games with staff and their friends. All children are happy and remain deeply engaged in play.

Staff know children well. They show a genuine interest in what they have to say. This motivates children to recall and talk about previous experiences. Children warmly welcome staff's sensitive interactions in their play and confidently turn to them for support when needed. Staff are positive role models and have high expectations of children. They consistently use good manners when speaking to each other and children. This motivates children to say please and thank you without being prompted. Children eagerly volunteer to carry out age-appropriate responsibilities, such as cleaning the tables prior to lunch and sweeping the floor afterwards. They show high levels of respect for their environment. Children benefit from rich opportunities that support their appreciation of the wider world and local community. They have developed strong relationships with teachers and children of a newly opened music school in Kenya. Visits to a local care home to play games with residents increase children's empathy and an understanding of the value of caring for others. Staff display children's creations. This supports children to have a strong sense of belonging in this inclusive club.

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

- Children behave positively. They know that when staff clap their hands they stop and listen to staff's instructions. Children follow these well. For example, they pack away activities together when it is tidy-up time. Staff take the time to support children to understand how they and others are feeling. They introduce them to more complex emotions, such as frustration. This helps children to regulate their own behaviour.
- Leaders and staff work in close partnership with the schools that children attend. Good two-way communication helps to support children's well-being and continuity of care. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported by the staff team. Leaders attend school meetings alongside parents, offering support and guidance where needed. Working together and sharing a holistic overview of children helps to create a consistent approach and

best meets children's needs during their time at the club.

- Staff obtain a wealth of information from parents prior to children attending the club. Staff use this information well to provide tailored care for every child and implement a child-led programme that consistently reflects children's interests. Weekly outings during the summer holiday period broaden children's experiences. For instance, during a visit to a farm, children eagerly groom a pony and have a go at milking a goat. They also discover how the pasteurisation process makes the milk safe to drink.
- The club adopts a 'buddy' system for new children. Older, more established children support their new friends during the first few weeks to feel comfortable and build positive relationships. They engage them in play and familiarise them with the routines of the club. The flexible key-person system enables children to build natural bonds with staff. This supports children to swiftly settle and feel confident to independently explore the enticing range of activities and resources.
- Leaders and staff regularly observe each other's practice and provide constructive feedback. Regular staff meetings serve as a platform to share good practice and gain ideas to support a consistent approach. Staff complete mandatory training and the induction process ensures that staff understand their role and are suitable to work with children. Leaders prioritise staff well-being. In addition, staff have access to external support and guidance if needed. Staff report how they thoroughly enjoy their role and how they feel part of one big family.
- Children develop a good understanding of healthy lifestyles. They receive a nutritious and balanced range of breakfast and snacks. Children thoroughly enjoy being physically active in the inviting outdoor area. Children build good coordination and agility as they play badminton. They show curiosity and enjoyment as they experiment with different objects, such as a shuttlecock and a large pom-pom to see which works best for aiming accurately when it is slightly windy.
- Leaders and staff keep parents fully informed of their child's time at the club. They regularly share photos of children's experiences sent via a secure app and verbal updates at drop off and collection times. Parents are highly complimentary about the dedicated staff team. They comment how they appreciate the 'warmth and attention' their children receive and how they feel 'totally at ease' knowing their children will be looked after well.

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	EY549636
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10399636
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 14
Total number of places	45
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	Watkins, Tracey May
Registered person unique reference number	RP905401
Telephone number	07759882887
Date of previous inspection	9 December 2019

Information about this early years setting

Chillout Kids Club registered in 2017. The club employs five members of staff, three of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 3 or above. The club operates from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday during school holiday periods and from 3pm until 6pm Monday to Friday during term time.

Chillout Kids Club has been a Registered Provider since 2002 at various sites and is now active at Barnmead Pavilion since 2017.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lorraine Pike

Inspection activities

- The inspector and provider took a tour of the club. They discussed how the club is organised and the play opportunities provided for children.
- A joint observation was carried out by the inspector and the provider.
- The inspector held discussions with staff and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and their written feedback.
- The inspector held a meeting with the provider and assistant manager. She looked at a sample of documents. This included evidence about staff suitability.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children during activities.

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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