

Inspection of Funzone at the Windmill Centre

Windmill Community Centre, Ryegrass Lane, Redditch B97 5YE

Inspection date:

16 January 2025

**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

Staff members work together to create a friendly club, where all children are welcome. Staff build close bonds with the children and their families, and ensure they use their knowledge of each child to cater for their needs. For example, leaders have introduced a bus service for younger children to ensure they are transported to the club as quickly as possible. Staff share key messages between school and home and use this knowledge to help children settle quickly.

On arrival, staff support children to put their coats and belongings away and ensure they wash their hands before eating. This helps children to be independent. Staff carefully consider the age range and interest of children, planning practical activities which are fun and engaging. For example, children have the opportunity to experience practical skills, such as how to rewire a plug.

Staff organise the club environment, so that children can access a range of different activities. For example, children can choose to sit in a quiet area, where they can look at books and play games. They also access a secure outdoor area with resources, such as balls and construction, for them to enjoy. Staff support children to play harmoniously together by praising positive behaviour. Children enjoy their time at the club and describe it like being at home with the same rules as school.

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

- The staff team strive to provide an inclusive service, where all children flourish and develop during their time at the club. Children delight in taking part in a range of exciting experiences, such as regularly visiting the cinema, beach, local museum and forest, where they have opportunities to cook foods on a campfire.
- Staff build trusted relationships with all of the children and instinctively know when an individual child needs more support. They work with them to help them in their play or to access an activity. On occasion, staff become so engrossed with supporting an individual child or small group, they do not intervene quickly enough to ensure the noise levels in the hall remain calm. This is alleviated when leaders step in and restore a calm atmosphere, so children can listen to their friends as they play.
- Leaders ensure the club offers a range of healthy food options to help give children the energy they need. Children are encouraged to self-serve, while younger children are supervised as they develop their independence. Children talk about liking the range of food options the club offer and say they enjoy a walk each week to the local shop to purchase a small treat to share with their friends.

- Leaders support staff to develop skills that enable them to carry out their role effectively. Staff are highly motivated and enjoy undertaking mandatory and other chosen training options. Leaders identify training needs through regular supervisions and observations with staff. They share development points in staff meetings and discuss ways they will continue to develop as a team.
- Parents talk positively about the provision offered at the club. They say their children enjoy the range of activities, trips and experiences staff offer throughout the year. Parents acknowledge that their children are well supported when they join. They receive an individualised handover from staff, who also share messages from school to help parents to be informed of their child's day.
- Staff listen to children and take their concerns and worries seriously. They act quickly to sort out any friendship issues and empower children to learn skills, such as communication and understanding. Staff regularly talk to children about well-being and promote ways they can understand their own and others emotions and feelings. This helps children to reflect on their actions and interact effectively with other people.
- Staff supervise children and ensure they are safely escorted to and from school to the club. Children wear high-visibility jackets, and robust systems ensure that the team work together to keep children safe during drop off and pick up times. Staff talk to children about road safety, and children walk sensibly, understanding the risks around them.

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	2703853
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	10365686
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Out-of-school day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	4 to 12
Total number of places	56
Number of children on roll	128
Name of registered person	Funzone Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP521296
Telephone number	07703610788
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Funzone at the Windmill Centre registered in 2022 and is located in The Windmill Community Centre in Redditch. The club employs seven members of staff. Of these, two hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 and one holds a qualification at level 6. The club opens Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 6pm, during term time. A holiday club operates from 7.30am to 6pm during school holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Victoria Laird

Inspection activities

- The manager showed the inspector around the club and explained how the play environment is organised.
- The inspector had several discussions with the manager to explore how the club is led and managed. The inspector spoke to staff at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The manager showed the inspector documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.

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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