

Inspection of Kids R Us Shirley

Shirley Infants School & Childrens Centre, Nuffield Road, Cambridge CB4 1TF

Inspection date:

21 November 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 arrive happily and settle well into the familiar club routine. They know what is expected of them when staff collect them from their classrooms. Children form a line and walk with staff and chat. They hang their coats and bags before gathering as a group for register and to hear what activities are available for the day. Staff encourage older children to help younger children, particularly at the start of the academic year. This helps to foster friendships across the age groups as well as helping younger children to settle and build self-confidence at the club.

Staff encourage children to make choices. They seek children's feedback about the food they offer at snack time and what activities they would like. Staff ensure that children have plenty of opportunities for physical games and activities, including a sports coach who leads group activities each Wednesday. They also ensure there are plenty of opportunities for quiet relaxation, such as reading, chatting with staff and friends or doing homework. Staff know the children well and create a welcoming and relaxed environment. Children take turns to help out with some club tasks. This helps them to build a sense of belonging and they enjoy the responsibility.

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

- The provider has a clear club ethos, which reflects playwork philosophies to play, be creative, engaged and inspired to try new things. Staff receive appropriate training to help ensure they deliver the provider's aims, including mandatory training in safeguarding and paediatric first aid. They are enthusiastic in their work and committed to helping children build self-confidence, independence and have fun.
- Parents are very positive about the club. They state that their children enjoy attending the club and appreciate the range of activities on offer. Parents also say that staff work with them to accommodate any specific requests, such as ideas of food choices.
- Staff establish very strong links with the host school. The key person for the younger children meets with reception teachers and nursery staff regularly to gather and share information. They plan some activities at the club that support what school and nursery are focusing on next for the younger children that attend. For example, they provide plenty of mark-making opportunities for children to practise forming letters and writing their names.
- Children show positive attitudes to learning new skills and develop resilience to keep trying. They show good levels of concentration as they thread laces in and out of pictures of fruit. Children make links from the fruit pictures to fruit they have tried for the first time. They delight in their success when they thread the

lace correctly, eagerly sharing the achievement with staff.

- Staff say that they enjoy working at the club. They have regular supervision meetings with their line manager and are encouraged to seek training to help build their knowledge and skills. A number of staff intend to gain professional early years qualifications. The provider is keen to support staff's continued professional development.
- Staff deploy themselves well throughout the club to ensure children are supervised at all times in the different areas available. They complete regular checks to ensure the environment is safe for the children that attend and are vigilant to address emerging hazards during the session. When the outside temperature drops significantly, they bring children inside and offer games in the hall to provide more vigorous activity, such as dodgeball.
- Staff work incredibly hard to create a positive, fun-filled and relaxing environment that meets the needs and interests of all children that attend. Staff are vigilant to check when children's engagement wanes and quickly adapt and change what is on offer. Children enjoy a thoroughly varied range of activities that also help them develop new interests and form friendships.
- Children say that they enjoy coming to the club. They engage well and delight in exploring different textures, such as artificial snow. Staff talk to them about how it feels and develop relaxed conversations with children as they play.

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	2685291
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10325831
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	76
Name of registered person	Kids R Us Out Of School Clubs Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2571895
Telephone number	07413698270
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Kids R Us Shirley registered in 2022 and operates from Shirley Infants School and Children's Centre in Cambridge. Sessions are from 7.30am until 9am and from 3pm until 6pm each week day during school term time. A holiday club operates each weekday during the school holidays from 8am to 6pm except for one week between Christmas and New Year. The club employs seven members of childcare staff, two of whom hold relevant early years qualifications at level 2 and above.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Gail Warnes

Inspection activities

- The nominated individual showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the after-school club.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- The nominated individual and the inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity.
- The inspector reviewed the written feedback provided by parents and took account of their views.
- The area 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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