

Inspection of Pied Piper The Mead

The Mead School, 16 Frant Road, Tunbridge Wells TN2 5SN

Inspection date:

8 August 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

Children arrive at the holiday club happily and are greeted by passionate and dedicated staff, who make them feel instantly welcome. They settle quickly and enthusiastically join in a wide range of activities. Laughter, smiles and energy fill the day as children play, explore and learn together. Children spend time playing outside and benefit from fresh air and exercise. They enjoy parachute games on the large field area, which is also used for team activities, such as mini-Olympics. These experiences help to develop children's physical skills, coordination and confidence, while also supporting their overall well-being.

Staff place a strong emphasis on children's care and emotional well-being. They provide a safe, nurturing environment, where children feel secure, valued and listened to. Staff carefully consider individual needs through inclusive practice, and offer support and guidance to ensure all children can fully participate. They use positive interactions, encouragement and opportunities to develop confidence, resilience and social skills are a key part of daily routines. Staff know the children well and respond quickly to their needs, celebrating successes and helping them manage any minor frustrations. Transitions between activities are fun and engaging, often supported by songs or mini challenges, helping children move smoothly and feel happy.

Children behave well, share resources and celebrate each other's successes. They are motivated, persevere through challenges and feel proud of their achievements. Staff carefully supervise, encourage and create a stimulating environment, where children are happy, settled and fully engaged. Their enjoyment, confidence and sense of belonging are evident throughout the club's routines and activities.

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

- The leadership team leads with passion and dedication, driven by a clear vision to create the very best experiences for every child. It is deeply committed to continually enhancing the environment and activities, ensuring they inspire, engage and include all. Staff benefit from high-quality training and follow well-defined principles that reflect the setting's ethos and values. Leaders encourage a reflective approach, with staff regularly reviewing activities to make sure they meet the individual needs of children. This may mean adding extra challenge for those ready to stretch themselves or providing tailored tasks to help less confident children succeed and thrive.
- Leaders and staff work in close partnership with parents to plan thoughtful and engaging activities before children arrive. This ensures every child enjoys a wide variety of exciting experiences during their time at the holiday provision. They

share ideas and information with parents to help children make the most of their time at the club. The leadership team actively seeks parents' feedback, using their views to shape activities that reflect children's interests, build on their skills and enhance their enjoyment.

- Staff bring great energy to their work, joining in with activities and clearly enjoying the day alongside the children. They show genuine care and commitment to the children they work with. Many speak with heartfelt enthusiasm about the children themselves. They are encouraged to share their own talents and interests to inspire, engage and motivate. Staff gather information from parents to ensure they can meet children's individual needs. For example, staff know that some children like time to be distanced from the main group. This helps children feel comfortable and included.
- Staff plan activities based around a weekly theme. They use creativity and imaginative exploration to adapt activities for younger children. This helps children feel valued and ensures that activities include their interests.
- Staff demonstrate strong team working within the club. Their professional skills and knowledge are supported well and they benefit from the focus leaders place on their induction process. Staff use their training, for example, to help them keep children safe. They are encouraged to share ideas for activities they can provide.
- Staff place a strong emphasis on supporting children's independence skills, self-esteem and confidence. Children are placed in groups with others of a similar age, which helps to create a sense of belonging. Younger children have the security of a 'base' room for quiet play and art activities. This helps children feel safe to explore and make new friendships.
- Children thoroughly enjoy taking part in creative activities. They use construction resources to build an imaginative jungle, and then draw lions and make masks inspired by their creations. Staff encourage children to explore materials, experiment with ideas and express themselves in different ways. Children proudly display their work and help tidy up afterwards, fostering teamwork and respect for their play environment.

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	2739456
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10399969
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	5 to 10
Total number of places	78
Number of children on roll	106
Name of registered person	Pied Piper North Activities Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2723899
Telephone number	07834783651
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Pied Piper The Mead registered in 2023 and is in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. It is one of a group of holiday clubs owned by Pied Piper North Activities Limited. It provides holiday provision for children during the summer and is open from 8.30am to 5.45pm, Monday to Friday. There are fifteen staff working in the setting, of whom three are qualified teachers.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Laura Hodges

Inspection activities

- Leaders gave the inspector a tour of the premises and explained what activities are on offer for children.
- The inspector viewed a sample of the documentation leaders use. This included background checks carried out on staff.
- The inspector observed children as they participated in activities, indoors and outside. She observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to staff, children and parents at different points during the inspection and took their views into account.
- Leaders talked to the inspector about how they support the professional development of staff and ensure they are suitable to work with children.

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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