

Inspection of Platform Active Bell Farm School

Bell Farm Primary School, Hersham Road, Hersham, Walton-on-thames KT12 5NB

Inspection date:

15 April 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

Fun, laughter and excitement are at the heart of this welcoming and engaging club. Children are happy, settled and thoroughly enjoy their time. Nurturing staff build warm, trusting relationships with children and show a genuine interest in their lives. They effectively promote children's emotional well-being. If children become a little upset, staff respond swiftly and sensitively. As a result, they get to know each child well, including those who are new to the club. This helps all children feel safe, comfortable and secure.

Leaders and staff use information from children and parents to plan exciting themes, often based around children's interests. For example, during a sea-life topic, children energetically run around in a 'sharks and fish' game. They are fully immersed in the experience. Themed activities are often enriched with real-life experiences, such as the chance to handle live animals, including reptiles, under expert supervision. These opportunities broaden children's knowledge and boost their confidence.

Children's safety is given the utmost priority. Staff are excellent role models and hold daily safety briefings with children to make their expectations clear. Children familiar with the club, confidently recall the rules, such as respecting equipment, each other and adults. They help remind each other throughout the day, in a kind and respectful way. This contributes to a calm, productive and positive environment for all.

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

- Activities are well thought-out and designed to support all children, with a strong emphasis placed on physical activities. Children are highly interested in team games and enjoy being challenged by the expert coaches. Skilful staff encourage children to think tactically. For example, during a team game, they prompt children who are 'sharks', to consider how best to catch the others, who are 'fish', before they reach the 'safe zone'. These types of scenarios promote children's problem-solving and strategic thinking extremely well.
- Children behave impeccably. They listen carefully to staff's instructions to further enhance their experience of the wonderful opportunities on offer. For instance, during a woodland scavenger hunt for toy sea creatures, they demonstrate great teamwork in sharing ideas and supporting one another. Their enthusiasm and perseverance are praised by attentive staff, as children celebrate their achievements with everyone.
- The promotion of healthy lifestyles is well-established in daily practice. Staff ensure children stay hydrated, particularly during and after high energy activity.

Mealtimes are social occasions where children enjoy chatting about their home experiences and nutritious foods in their lunchboxes. Handwashing routines are followed diligently and reinforce children's understanding of good hygiene. These types of routines support children to remain fit and well.

- Children's emotional well-being is exceptionally well supported. There is a strong sense of community, with several younger children attending the club alongside their older siblings. Older children follow staff's lead by acting as excellent role models. They show care and consideration towards others. This is illustrated when children help their younger peers with activity challenges. Those seeking quieter moments love to relax on large beanbags with magazines. This highlights the club's inclusive and nurturing ethos.
- Committed staff take time to understand each child's talents and personalities. They celebrate children's uniqueness at every opportunity. For instance, children excitedly share their experience of swimming with dolphins while on holiday. Staff readily build on this and recall how some children can mimic dolphin sounds. These children proudly demonstrate their skills, to the amazement of their friends. This sparks even more discussion, and children eagerly share their knowledge of other underwater creatures. In this way, children's knowledge is further enriched through shared interests.
- Children's creativity is actively encouraged and nurtured by staff. This is demonstrated when children first design patterns on paper, which they then replicate on shells, using paints. They remain focused and committed to the task, producing intricate and personalised creations. When staff commend their efforts, children beam with pride and eagerly share their work with friends, showcasing their amazing talents.
- The experienced and capable leadership team play a proactive role in the smooth running of the club. Staff receive clear direction and personalised support, and show confidence in their roles and responsibilities. Leaders are praised by staff for their willingness and strong commitment to further enhance their professional development. They encourage staff to reflect and continually improve their practice for the benefit of children's enjoyment and engagement.
- Parents speak highly of the club and welcome the personal, thoughtful touches, such as a welcome gift and ongoing daily communication. Staff keep parents fully informed about their child's experiences. On collection, children are proud to share their creations and talk to parents about what they have done. This fosters meaningful links between home and the club.

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	2719472
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10392219
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	20
Number of children on roll	25
Name of registered person	Platform Sports Coaching Ltd.
Registered person unique reference number	2621628
Telephone number	0208 087 2789
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Platform Active Bell Farm School registered in 2023. The holiday club is based in Bell Farm School in Hersham, Surrey. It operates Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 5.30pm, in the school holidays. The provider employs four members of staff. Of these, three have relevant sports qualifications.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sonia Panchal

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The company director and the inspector discussed how the holiday club organises their early years provision.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- The company director and the inspector carried out a joint observation of a group activity.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the holiday club.

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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