

Inspection of The Gap Club Breakfast, After School & Holiday Club @ Homer First School, Windsor.

Homer First School & Nursery, Testwood Road, Windsor SL4 5RL

Inspection date: 10 July 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

Staff at the club provide a welcoming environment for the children to play and relax within after their day at school. They make full use of the areas within the room and grounds to provide activities and challenges for the differing needs of the ages of children present. Children show they feel happy, safe and secure. They demonstrate the strong bonds they have with staff and are confident talking to them and playing alongside them.

Management and staff work together to create an outline plan of activities and experiences they feel children will enjoy. However, this is used as a flexible base for children themselves to build on. For example, in a 'meet and greet' session discussion staff discover children's love of penguins. They provide ice cubes, toy penguins, polar bears and seals, and stones to create an Arctic activity. Children enjoy sharing with staff how penguins waddle, do not live with Santa Claus in the North Pole and icebergs are cold. When children wanted to extend this outside, staff happily supported this and joined in. Children eagerly share and take turns as they work together to collect water, sand and animals to create a new 'habitat'.

Children can choose how they wish to relax. Staff encourage children to talk during the 'meet and greet' session. Staff use this as an opportunity to find out about children's day and share what is available to them to use. For example, children can unwind in the cosy reading area, play board games with their friends, be creative with the art and craft resources or do an activity, such as about penguins and their habitats. Children happily explain to adults how they love attending the club and what they like best, whether it is playing outside or being creative inside.

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

- The provider, management team and staff have a clear vision for the club. They strive to make improvements that benefit the children and the community they serve. The provider takes an active role in the club and works alongside management and staff. She gathers the views of the staff, parents, and children to improve the service she provides. Children explain how they love attending and talk fondly about the staff and how nice they are.
- Management and staff prioritise children's safety and well-being. They implement robust recruitment and induction procedures to ensure that staff are suitable and aware of their roles and responsibilities. Staff deploy themselves well and follow the effective policies and procedures to ensure children can play safely. Management monitor staff's knowledge of safeguarding children and provide them with regular training to keep this up to date. Staff demonstrate a secure understanding of what to do if they have a concern for a child's welfare.

- Staff are positive role models and work with children in setting rules and boundaries. Children know the rules and staff support them to take ownership for managing their behaviour. They were observed to be polite and considerate towards others. Staff spend time listening to children and encourage them to share their views and interests so they can incorporate these into the club activities and discussions.
- Staff build on children's understanding of healthy lifestyles. They remind children of the importance of keeping hydrated, particularly after they have been active outside. Prior to snack time, they remind children about the need to wash their hands before eating, and children all do this before finding a seat at the table. Mealtimes are social occasions. Children politely asked their friends to pass the butter or cheese, and have discussions with staff on their food likes and dislikes as they make their own rolls.
- Children enjoy a range of physical activities, both inside and outside. They climb, swing and negotiate on the outside play equipment. Children use racquets and balls to play tennis and team up to play football with staff. Staff immerse themselves in the play and children enjoy these interactions and the physical outlet it provides after their day at school. Inside the room, staff provide creative resources for children to freely choose from. Children confidently show adults how they have created pictures sticking gems to paper, their pipe cleaner models and their drawing and cutting.
- Parent partnerships are effective and staff demonstrate that they have positive relationships with parents and include them in the activities of the club. Staff and parents share two-way dialogue about the children to ensure their needs are being met. Management and staff communicate with parents in a variety of ways, discussions on collection of the children, emails, newsletters and seeking their views via questionnaires. Parents explain how their children enjoy attending the club and the staff are friendly.

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	2675730
Local authority	Windsor and Maidenhead
Inspection number	10347151
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 10
Total number of places	48
Number of children on roll	39
Name of registered person	The Gap Club Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP906437
Telephone number	07970721007
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Gap Club Breakfast, After School & Holiday Club @ Homer First School, Windsor registered in 2022. It operates from Homer First School in Windsor, Berkshire. It accepts children from Homer School and Dedworth Green first and middle school, however they do not operate a collection service from the latter school. It operates from 3pm to 6pm. There are five staff, and there are usually three staff working at a time.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anne Nicholson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The provider showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The manager shared with the inspector what they provide at the club and what they want children to gain from this.
- Children spoke communicated with the inspector during the inspection and shared their views.
- Parents views and testimonials were taken into account.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the 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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