

Inspection of Withymoor Stay and Play

Withymoor Community Room, Gayfield Avenue, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 2BH

Inspection date:

5 September 2024

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Not Met (with actions)

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children enter the club with a smile and are greeted by the friendly staff. Children understand and follow the routines of the club. They hang up their belongings in the cloakroom before having their snack. Staff take interest in the children and ask them about their school day.

Leaders and managers ensure that children's safety is a priority. Older children independently make their way to the club after school and are signed in by staff as they enter the room. Younger children are collected from school and are supervised carefully as they walk to the club to meet their friends. When the staff take children out on walks to the local park, they teach children how to keep themselves safe when crossing roads.

Staff are positive role models. They speak to children and each other with respect and kindness. As a result, children are polite and friendly and behave well. Children take turns to stack cans and knock them down with beanbags. Older children support their younger peers. When there are instances of negative behaviour between children, staff respond quickly and talk to children about their actions. They discuss how others may feel, which supports their emotional well-being.

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

- Staff at the club get to know children very well and plan creative activities that support their interests. They invite children to create handprints for their birthday wall. Children listen to and follow instructions. They engage well with activities. Children speak positively about the club. They talk about the activities that they enjoy, such as playing football outside.
- Staff work collaboratively with the school team to share information and ideas about how to support and engage children. They use appropriate strategies to provide continuity. This helps all staff to understand and prepare for the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Children have regular opportunities to take part in physical activities. They climb up the indoor climbing frame and travel down the slide. Children take part in creative games, where they work together to explore with coloured tiles on the ground.
- Mealtimes are a social occasion, where children sit together to eat. Children are provided with a wide range of healthy snacks as they enter the after-school club. They make choices about what they would like to eat. Staff stay with children as they eat, in order to keep them safe. They remind children to remain sitting until they have finished what they have eaten, to avoid choking. Staff wear aprons and gloves when preparing and serving snacks to children. However, staff do not

always remind children to wash their hands before eating.

- Parents and carers speak fondly about the staff and the care that they provide for their children in the club. They explain that their children enjoy attending club and that they feel safe. Staff invite parents into the room when they come to collect their children. The caring team get to know the families well and chat to them positively. The manager recognises the importance of parent's feelings and ideas about how to develop the club further.
- There are robust safeguarding procedures in place to ensure the safety of children that attend. Rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures are followed to check the suitability of staff working with children. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities and adhere to the safeguarding policy and procedures. All of the club staff understand how to respond appropriately to concerns about the welfare of children.
- Leaders and managers can identify some of the strengths and weaknesses of staff. They observe staff performance and give them feedback. They understand the importance of appraisals in sharing progress and targets to develop staff further. Staff are offered appropriate training to extend their knowledge and skills. For instance, new staff attend food hygiene and safeguarding training to develop their understanding of how to keep children healthy and safe.

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	2647875
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10337033
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 9
Total number of places	22
Number of children on roll	80
Name of registered person	Barnes, Curtis
Registered person unique reference number	2647876
Telephone number	01384 818534
Date of previous inspection	31 October 2023

Information about this early years setting

Withymoor Stay and Play registered in 2021 and is located in Brierley Hill. The club employs three members of childcare staff. Of these, one holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The club opens on Monday to Friday all year round. During term time, sessions are from 7.30am to 8.30am and 3.15pm to 5.30pm. During school holidays, sessions are from 8am to 5.30pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Ali Myers

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- 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 carried out a joint observation of a group activity with the manager.
- Parents and carers shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The 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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