

Inspection of Explorers

Alder Coppice Primary School, Northway, DUDLEY DY3 3PS

Inspection date:

13 February 2023

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

Summary of key findings

This provision meets requirements

- Leaders and staff are passionate about making sure that children are happy and comfortable in this after-school club. They provide children with time to reflect on their day at school, before deciding which activities they will take part in from the wide range that staff have carefully planned and provided for them. Children's favourite activities include football, construction resources, making flower tea and potions, and tackling challenging puzzles.
- Staff prioritise children's social and emotional development and well-being. They discuss how they empower the children to feel a part of the club and to feel connected. Staff support children to develop autonomy and make decisions about what they want to do. There is evidence in displays that there are regular discussions about issues, such as bullying, ways to feel happy, and rules and boundaries in the setting. As a result, children behave very well. They have good manners and are considerate to their friends.
- Leaders outline robust recruitment procedures to ensure that all staff are suitable to work with the children at the club. They train staff, so that they have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding and the steps they should take if they have a concern about the welfare of a child. Staff describe what they would do if there was a concern about radicalisation and extremism. They know how to assess risks and prepare a safe, age-appropriate environment for the children.
- Staff understand how to support children's physical development and health. They have considered the outdoor area and utilise all of the space very well to provide children with rich experiences. Staff encourage children to meet their own needs, such as washing hands before they eat a healthy range of snacks and helping themselves to water, which is always on offer.
- The owner encourages staff to access a wide range of training, so that they have a secure knowledge of child development and of the welfare of children. All staff hold a paediatric first-aid certificate and access extensive safeguarding training.
- The owner discusses how they build relationships with parents. They seek to share information on a daily basis, and regularly ask parents about their views of the provision. A number of parents spoken with at the inspection expressed how happy they are with the club, commenting 'it's like a family'.
- The club does not currently care for any children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. However, the manager has experience in working in partnership with parents and other professionals, so that children would be provided with any support they may need.

There were no children in the early years age range present when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no early years children present, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states whether the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2613854
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10265310
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Sessional day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	6 to 11
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	62
Name of registered person	Blakeman, Joanna
Registered person unique reference number	2613856
Telephone number	07468594888
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Explorers registered in 2020. Three staff work with the children, two of whom hold appropriate qualifications at level 3. The setting is open term time, Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 9am and 3pm to 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Juliette Freeman

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 inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke with staff and children during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documentation and checked the suitability of staff working with the 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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