

Inspection of Fireflies Childcare Limited

Motcombe Community School, Milton Road, Eastbourne BN21 1SN

Inspection date:

28 February 2025

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

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

Although children's safety is prioritised well overall, the procedures for referring any safeguarding concerns are not sufficiently clear. However, this does not impact on children's day-to-day experiences. They thoroughly enjoy their time at the out-of-school club and greet the staff enthusiastically, telling them about their day at school. Staff use their secure knowledge of the interests of the children when deciding on the resources to set out. Children soon settle into playing with their friends. Those who are hungry choose from a broad selection of fruit and know to sit calmly at the snack table before heading off to play. Some children choose to engage in imaginative games, using cars and tracks, while others work together to explore construction materials. Those who choose to make paper aeroplanes receive gentle reminders to make sure that they fly them away from areas where others are playing.

The effectively planned routines provide children with a lot of time to enjoy outdoor play. Under the supervision of staff, children test their physical capabilities as they negotiate climbing equipment and run around with their friends. They understand the routines of the session and cooperate happily with washing their hands ready for their cooked tea. Mealtime is a sociable occasion, and children chat happily. Children benefit from good support to develop their social skills and to behave well. For example, they all join in with the activity of discussing what they are individually thankful for.

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

- The provider has a clear aim to ensure that all children enjoy a broad range of play experiences. There are secure arrangements to provide staff with the support, guidance and training they need to implement the designed activity programme. Staff also complete training to ensure that they are able to identify any potential child protection concerns. However, the procedures for referring concerns, and for responding to any allegations against a member of staff, are not in line with local safeguarding guidelines. This does not ensure that staff have a confident knowledge of the procedures to follow should the need arise.
- Staff work together well as a team. This creates a warm, positive atmosphere. The friendly interaction of staff significantly enhances children's enjoyment. They know the children well. Staff meet before each session to discuss the interests and needs of the children due to attend. In addition to helping them to decide on the resources to set out, this allows them to consider any factors such as how individual children will react to planned fire alarms. This is particularly effective in supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- As well as providing a range of interesting play opportunities, staff introduce

new ideas and experiences to increase children's knowledge and understanding. These successfully capture children's imaginations. For example, children learn the 'word of the week'. They also happily chew a piece of mint as they explore the 'taste of the week', discussing the flavour with their friends and the staff. Staff read stories that children thoroughly enjoy and skilfully encourage lively debate. These group activities help to build a sense of camaraderie among the children.

- There are effective arrangements to promote children's health. For example, staff provide healthy snacks and meals, accommodating children's individual dietary restrictions and preferences. They provide regular reminders for children to drink water, particularly after physical play. Staff are vigilant about children's safety on site. They complete checks of the premises and outdoor area before children arrive. They also provide relevant information and reminders to help children to keep themselves safe. For example, children are advised not to swing back on their chairs.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. Staff take time to speak with each parent as they collect their child and also use online systems to provide relevant information. Parent feedback is very positive.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is an not open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
ensure that the procedures for referring concerns about children's welfare, and for responding to any allegations against staff, are in line with those of the local safeguarding partners and are fully understood by staff.	21/03/2025

Setting details

Unique reference number	2706460
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	10368622
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	16
Number of children on roll	24
Name of registered person	Fireflies Childcare Limited
Registered person unique reference number	2706457
Telephone number	07462954274
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Fireflies Childcare Limited registered in 2022 and is based in Eastbourne. The group operates out-of-school provision from 3pm to 6pm during school term times and from 8am to 6pm during school holidays. The number of staff present each session is determined by the number of children booked to attend. The manager is present for all sessions and holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Inspection activities

- The manager showed the inspector all areas used by children and discussed the organisation of the provision.
- The inspector observed the interactions of staff and children during a range of activities, indoors and outdoors.
- The views of children and parents were gathered and taken into account.
- The inspector viewed a range of relevant documentation.

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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