

Inspection of YIKs All About Autism

Clifton Children's Centre, Clifton, York YO30 6JA

Inspection date:

2 June 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

The setting offers children a safe space to relax and be themselves. Children are supported by knowledgeable staff, who have all taken part in training about autism and understand children's unique needs. Children behave well. However, when children's emotions become too much for them to self-regulate, staff are close by to help calm them and focus their attention on what they are doing next. This helps children to feel safe and secure.

Children are happy as they explore the calming environment, which provides them with a variety of sensory experiences indoors and outdoors. Staff encourage children to play alongside others to develop their social interactions and teach children how to form friendships. Staff role model play and join in play that children initiate. For example, they pretend to become a patient as children use their imaginations to be a doctor.

Children use chalks as they make marks on the chalkboard and develop their fine motor skills when using dough. Staff seek out resources for children who enjoy the sounds within the setting, such as the large truck with electronic sounds. This helps children to be engaged during their time at the setting.

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

- Information sharing with parents and carers is excellent. Staff hold parents in high esteem and value the information shared by parents before children start at the setting. This sharing of information is vital to help staff to form a good understanding of each child's needs and abilities.
- Staff work closely with the local authority and local health colleagues to provide essential support and training for children and their families. Staff gather information from external professionals to implement targeted strategies to support children's development. However, the setting's primary focus is to support children's social interactions with their peers.
- Leaders ensure that there is a high level of supervision for children. This keeps children safe and provides parents with the reassurance that their children are well cared for. Staff support and meet children's needs as and when they need it throughout the session.
- The setting offers a holistic approach to children's well-being, ensuring parents are valued and supported. They offer parent drop in sessions, where they share support, advice and guidance. Staff also offer parents a friendly chat and they understand the challenges and achievements of caring for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Parents describe the setting and staff as 'literal life savers'.

- The senior leadership team ensures that staff have the skills and knowledge to support children with autism and keep them safe. It uses regular supervision sessions to ensure that any gaps in staff's knowledge are identified and schedule training. Leaders support staff's well-being through a range of strategies, including effective teamwork.
- Staff complete daily safety checks prior to each session. This includes taking account of individual children's needs and abilities to determine which resources are suitable to provide for children. Staff provide a wide selection of resources based on all ages of children.
- Staff provide children with a selection of healthy snacks. They are conscious of the colour and textures of foods as this can often be a challenge for some children. Staff are aware of children's allergies and intolerances and adhere to these.

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	2719168
Local authority	York
Inspection number	10392159
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 8
Total number of places	44
Number of children on roll	164
Name of registered person	York Inspirational Kids CIC
Registered person unique reference number	2719166
Telephone number	07986122762
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

YIKs All About Autism registered in 2023 and is located in York. The setting employs nine members of childcare staff. Of these, six staff hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 3 or above, including qualified teacher status. The setting opens Monday to Friday, all year round, apart from two weeks at Christmas. It is open from 4.30pm to 7.30pm, during term time. The setting operates a holiday club, which will operate from 8.30am to 5pm, offering two separate four-hour sessions.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jo Clark

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual about the leadership and management of the setting.
- Staff spoke to the inspector about how they support children with SEND.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and 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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