

Inspection of Smartkidz Play And Learn Ltd

Glebe Cp School, Cambridge Road, Cambridge CB3 0PN

Inspection date:

8 April 2022

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children enjoy their time at the club. The atmosphere is relaxed and fun, with a particular focus on physical outdoor activity. Children tell visitors that they love their time spent here, as they access lots of fun activities and make new friends. The children benefit from consistent routines. For example, younger children are collected from classrooms by their key person and older children access the club from inside the school. This supports children's emotional well-being as they establish good relationships with staff. Children's behaviour is excellent and supported by staff that act as positive role models for turn taking and helping each other. Older children guide the younger children and show kindness and support. Staff reward children with praise for their teamwork, which motivates children to play cooperatively with each other. This results in an environment that enables children to make new friends quickly.

Children are excited to access the large array of resources available to them. They enjoy uninterrupted play opportunities that staff carefully observe to allow children freedom to explore and problem-solve. This builds children's resilience as they overcome challenges in their play. Children enjoy spending time outdoors. For example, finding ways to move around on various wheeled toys and creating outdoor dens. This supports children's physical development and their ability to take calculated risks.

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

- Staff form good relationships with the children that attend the club. They gather thorough information from parents when children begin to attend. Staff observe children's play choices to help plan activities based on their interests. They value children's opinions and encourage them to share their ideas for improvements to the club. Children are encouraged to make choices about the activities on offer and the play areas they use.
- Children thoroughly enjoy the physical activities available at the club. For instance, children excitedly enter the hall to construct with the large soft-play equipment. They work collaboratively in groups to create dens with steps and slides to enter and exit their hideouts. This supports children's social development, as they negotiate with each other to establish safe methods of moving large items of equipment.
- Children are encouraged to be healthy, independent and confident. For example, children are provided with healthy snacks, such as crackers with cheese, and a variety of fruit to choose from. Staff remind children to drink plenty of water throughout the play sessions. Children have free-flow play to the outdoor areas and a considerable amount of physical play opportunities.

- Staff support children's personal development by providing lots of opportunities for children to take appropriate and calculated risks while playing. Staff support children's learning and development through carefully sequenced teaching. For example, staff support children to develop climbing skills at a lower level and discuss the strength of branches before children can go higher.
- The manager and staff team maintain an effective partnership with teachers and parents from the host school. Parents say communication between the club and themselves is good and that they would recommend the club to other families. The manager has begun to improve relationships with other schools. This supports the transition for children attending in the holidays from outside schools.
- The manager uses effective measures for the evaluation of the club. Parents, children and staff are all included in discussions to determine areas for development. In addition, the manager frequently meets with the staff team to share good practice and brainstorm ideas to further enhance the children's experiences. This helps staff to make ongoing improvements to provisions in the club.
- The manager and deputy have implemented effective supervisions that support their staff's professional development and well-being. Regular meetings are held with staff to refresh and update their knowledge surrounding safeguarding. Additionally, staff are provided with the opportunity to access training to improve their professional development and further develop their skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

All staff have a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. This includes knowledge of wider safeguarding issues. For example, female genital mutilation and the 'Prevent' duty. Staff know how and where to report any concerns to keep children safe. Staff have received appropriate training to enable them to safeguard children from harm, abuse and neglect. Additionally, all staff understand the procedures to follow if they have any concerns about the behaviour of a colleague towards children. Risk assessments are effective. Careful consideration has been given to enable children to take appropriate risks in activities but in a safe and supervised way.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY494551
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10219417
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	30
Number of children on roll	83
Name of registered person	Smartkidz Play And Learn Limited
Registered person unique reference number	RP534963
Telephone number	07843663554
Date of previous inspection	11 August 2016

Information about this early years setting

Smartkidz Play And Learn Ltd was registered in 2015. The club employs four members of childcare staff, two of whom hold appropriate early years or playwork qualifications at level 3. The club opens from 7.30am to 8.50am, and 3.15pm to 6pm during school term times and from 8am to 6pm, during the main school holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Harris

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the setting 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 setting.
- The provider, manager and inspector completed a learning walk together. The provider and manager talked to the inspector about how the space and resources are used.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the provider, manager and staff. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons working with children.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection and took account of their views. She observed interactions between the 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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