

Inspection of Fun Fest Hartford

Grange Junior School, Beechwood Avenue, Hartford, Northwich CW8 3AU

Inspection date:

27 July 2023

**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

Children enter the club and are eager for the day ahead. Most confidently leave their parents at the door and greet staff happily. Children who are unsettled are quickly reassured by staff and other children. This means they go on to have an enjoyable time at the club. Children independently choose what they would like to play with. They delight in showing their creative skills as they use their imagination to create their own unique artwork on plant pots. Children involve the staff team in their play, be that getting them to join in a ball game, building structures with bricks or being involved in board games.

Children become familiar with the routines and rules of the club, this is because staff clearly explain the rules at the start of each session. Children listen intently to staff this helps to keep themselves and others safe in their play. Staff give children plenty of warning when they need to tidy up or when an activity is coming to an end. As a result, children are secure and feel safe. Children behave extremely well and are very polite. All children at the club are very considerate of each other and show consistently good manners. Older children act as good role models and demonstrate nurturing attitudes as they chat to younger children at lunch time. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, staff noted children struggled to follow rules. The provider has worked hard give children opportunities to develop this skill in fun games. This helps children to regulate their emotions and begin to follow rules.

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

- Leaders strive to provide the highest standards of care. They focus on improving practitioners' knowledge through a programme of professional development. As a result, most staff have a good knowledge of what experiences and activities to provide for children. However, the arrangements to monitor staff practice and provide supervision sessions to staff are not consistently implemented. This means some staff do not receive feedback on how to improve their effectiveness.
- Children access a wide range of activities that appeal to their interests. They laugh as they dress up in a variety of costumes and engage in role play. Staff provide physical activities to help improve children's fitness. Children cheer as they play dodge-ball and laugh as they 'move like beans'. Staff deliver music sessions and help children play familiar songs. These experiences allow children to develop their individual talents and skills.
- Children learn about cultures of the world. They participate in physical activities played in other parts of the world. However, there are limited opportunities for children to learn about and celebrate the cultures of children who attend the club. This approach does not ensure children gain a clear understanding of

diversity and does not fully prepare children for life in modern Britain.

- The provider is committed to ensuring the club is a 'screen free' environment. Children are keen to participate in the activities on offer. Older children have access to a quiet room in which they can relax. They enjoy activities such as den building and listening to music. Younger children develop their understanding of planting as they plant summer flowers. Children have the opportunity to listen to stories and read books. These meaningful activities help children develop new interests.
- Children enjoy outdoor play. They learn to safely take risks as they develop their physical strength. Staff encourage children to climb up ladders and complete obstacle courses. This helps children develop the confidence and ability to make it across the monkey bars. These activities help children develop their resilience and confidence.
- The provider seeks views of children and parents through discussions. This allows leaders to review the quality of the service they provide. Parents recently expressed that they would like the club to operate for extended hours. As a result, the provider extended the opening hours. This helps parents to feel supported.
- Staff provide parents with feedback about their children's experiences. Parents are happy with the provision and feel involved. Leaders give information to parents about local services they can access. This helps to support the well-being of families.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Staff understand their roles and responsibilities to help protect children from harm. They know the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedures to follow if they are concerned. Staff understand how to refer any concerns beyond the leadership team. Leaders ensure children participate in an evacuation practice drill every week. At the beginning of each session all children are informed of the position of exit routes. These procedures help children develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe in case of an emergency.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2648404
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10302933
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	3 to 11
Total number of places	96
Number of children on roll	176
Name of registered person	FF Cheshire West Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2648406
Telephone number	07713046737
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Fun Fest Hartford registered in 2021. The club employs 12 members of childcare staff. Of these, two members of staff hold qualifications at level 3 and three hold qualifications at level 6. Three members of staff also hold qualified teacher status. The club opens from Monday to Friday during school holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Deborah Magee

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 observed staff practice and children's experiences across a variety of activities.
- Parents, children and staff spoke to the inspector and shared their views of the setting.
- 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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