

Inspection of KidSpace @ the Alport

Malpas Alport Primary School, Chester Road, Malpas, Cheshire SY14 8PY

Inspection date:

25 February 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

Children welcome the arrival of the familiar after-school-club staff who collect them from their classrooms. They show that they feel safe and are looking forward to going to the club. Staff plan activities that promote children's physical development well. Pre-school children are fascinated by the impressive array of colourful beads. They carefully thread them onto strings and pipe cleaners. This promotes children's small-muscle control and hand-to-eye coordination. Older children skilfully make hula hoops roll away from them, then spin back towards them. They straddle jump the returning hoops. The challenging, energetic game promotes children's stamina, coordination and agility.

Children are polite to each other and to staff. They demonstrate positive relationships in their play and conversation. Many activities require children to follow rules. They learn to take turns and to value other people's ideas and opinions. Staff identify and minimise risks to children safety. They use cooking equipment, such as an electric toaster, in a room away from the club activities. This helps to protect children from injury. Parents and carers say that staff gather information about children before they attend the club. This helps staff to get to know new children and they settle in quickly.

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

- Staff are caring and supportive of each other. They model polite, playful behaviour and this helps to promote a harmonious atmosphere. Children learn that the after-school club is a place to have fun and make friends. They write a club rap that begins with the lines, 'Now KidSpace is where we all have fun, the staff's nice smiles are like the sun.'
- Children make decisions about what they want to do. This encourages their deep concentration for extended periods. Younger children request scissors and tape to complete intricate, self-initiated craft projects. Older children make careful drawings of the creatures swimming about in the on-screen aquarium. Children know that their choices will be respected. This helps to promote their confidence and self-esteem.
- The busy club gives children lots to talk about and this promotes children's communication and language development effectively. Children work together to invent storylines for imaginative role play. They devise and follow rules for games. This promotes children's ability to offer suggestions and to reach agreement with other people.
- The varied activities help to extend and reinforce children's knowledge. For example, children who are threading beads create increasingly complex alternating and symmetrical patterns. This consolidates their ability to devise and

follow a mathematical rule.

- Children enjoy the food that the club provides. However, on occasion, staff do not help children to think about how much food they need to satisfy their appetites. They do not give children enough information about choosing a balance of different food groups. This compromises children's ability to make the very healthiest choices about what they eat and drink.
- Children demonstrate a cheerful willingness to follow club routines. However, there are instances of staff not checking rigorously enough that children wash their hands before eating. This does not help children to develop consistent habits that promote their good health.
- Staff are deployed effectively. They position themselves so that indoor and outdoor spaces are supervised at all times. This promotes children's safety while they play. A member of staff is designated to oversee children's departure. They pass on messages to parents and this helps everyone to promote children's well-being and welfare. Staff make sure that the register is kept up to date. This promotes children's safety in case of an emergency.
- Staff complete training and professional development activities that update and extend their knowledge of safeguarding matters. They know how to seek advice if a child discloses information that indicates they may be at risk of harm. The club and the school share appropriate information about child protection matters. This helps them to keep children safe.

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	2709715
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10376000
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 12
Total number of places	32
Number of children on roll	72
Name of registered person	Taylor, Sonja
Registered person unique reference number	2692913
Telephone number	07833252451
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

KidSpace @ the Alport registered in 2022. The club employs four members of childcare staff. Of these, one member of staff holds a qualification at level 4 and one holds a qualification at level 3. The after-school club opens from Monday to Friday during school terms. Sessions are from 3pm until 6pm. A holiday club opens during the Easter and summer school holidays. Sessions are from 8am until 6pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Susan King

Inspection activities

- The club manager and the inspector discussed how the club is organised. They held discussions at appropriate times during the session.
- The inspector observed play, routines and activities at the club.
- The inspector spoke with children and parents and has taken their views into account.
- The inspector sampled and evaluated documents used in the club. This included evidence of qualifications, such as paediatric first aid.

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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