

Inspection of Jack in the box 2022

Whitehills Primary School, Acre Lane, NORTHAMPTON NN2 8DF

Inspection date:

21 March 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 happily enter the club and settle to play in the relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Staff greet children warmly and chat with them about their day and about experiences they have at home with their families. Young children freely make choices from the fun activities that staff provide, in response to their previously expressed interests. For example, they are delighted to explore the construction toys they asked for the last time they attended. Children enjoy a calm, quiet space, where they can read books or listen to staff read stories. Staff encourage children to be creative as they decorate masks at the craft table. Children cooperate well, share and take turns while they play games.

Young children follow familiar routines confidently. For instance, they know to wash their hands ready for snack time. Staff actively seek children's views. One example of this is when they encourage children to carry out a survey of their friends' preferences for snacks. Children score types of food, that are new to them, out of 10. Staff use the results to plan future menus. This helps children to feel that their opinions matter. Children practise their independence skills, for example, when they serve their own vegetables and ham to fill wraps or add to toast.

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

- Staff work effectively in partnership with teachers at the host school. They exchange information with them daily to ensure all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, are supported fully during their time at the club.
- Staff focus strongly on helping the youngest children to settle. They take into account children's likes and dislikes and respond sensitively to these when providing equipment and resources. Staff observe how young children are getting on so that they can make any adjustments to help them. They get to know children very well from the start.
- Parents value the 'great activities' that children access at the club. They say their children love their time at the club. Children choose to attend frequently, even when childcare is not needed. Staff pass on information gathered from the school and themselves to parents, as children leave. This helps parents to keep updated about children's experiences and well-being.
- Children benefit from fresh air and vigorous exercise in a large outside play area, where they can climb, balance and run. Young children learn to ride scooters safely along the paths and across playgrounds. They have a go at swinging the swing for themselves and say, 'no thank you,' when staff offer help. Children are proud of their physical abilities and receive plenty of praise and encouragement from staff.

- Staff have a consistent approach to promoting good behaviour. They remind young children of the rules, such as sitting down at the table to eat. Children willingly help to tidy away resources to keep the environment free from hazards. They understand staff expectations of them and the boundaries set to keep them safe and happy.
- Children are kind and respectful to their friends, to staff and to visitors. Staff are very positive role models, for example they always use good manners. Older children support their younger peers. They say that their favourite thing about the club is spending time with friends.
- Staff interactions with children are consistently positive. They know when to intervene, such as when helping a child to understand left and right. Staff promote children's social skills well. They join in with children's conversations, and ask meaningful questions to extend these further.
- The experienced leaders and well-qualified staff take time to reflect together, for example, during regular meetings. They use feedback from parents, children and the school to decide on any changes that are needed to their practice. Leaders and staff show pride in their own achievements at the club and those of the children in their care. Staff feel well supported and demonstrate that they enjoy their roles.
- Staff help children to find out more about the wider world around them at this inclusive club. For instance, children learn about different cultural celebrations. They delight in making birthday cards for their friends and singing to mark the occasion.

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	2705420
Local authority	West Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10380397
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	149
Name of registered person	Jenner, Rachel
Registered person unique reference number	2705421
Telephone number	07981204834
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

Jack in the Box 2022 registered in 2022 and is privately owned. The club operates independently from Whitehills Primary School in Northampton. The club employs five members of childcare staff. All staff members hold an appropriate qualification at level 2 or 3. The club opens from Monday to Friday, during term time only. Sessions are from 8am until 8.50am and from 3.15pm until 5.45pm.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Cathryn Clarricoates

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- Staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with the nominated individual and the manager about the leadership and management of the setting.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and the children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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