

Inspection of 4 Community Trust Alder Coppice

Alder Coppice Primary School, Northway, DUDLEY DY3 3PS

Inspection date:

12 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

Children are clearly happy and eager to attend this welcoming and friendly club. Staff get to know the children and their families well, which fosters strong trusting relationships. As a result, children are happy and settle quickly into the club. Staff set up interesting and engaging activities. Children engage with these immediately and with much enthusiasm. They play well together. Staff are encouraging in their approach when interacting with children. For example, when children share a dance they have been learning at school and say they are not very good at it, staff praise their performance and encourage them by explaining that regular practice will help them to get better. This supports children's growing resilience and boosts their self-esteem.

Staff have high expectations of all children and actively encourage them to show respect for others. As a result, children demonstrate kindness and care towards each other, contributing to a positive and inclusive atmosphere within the setting.

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

- Staff are positive role models. They have high expectations of all children. They encourage children to care and show respect for others. They encourage children to take turns when they are playing games and insist on good manners at snack time. For instance, all children must be sitting at the table before they begin eating. Children are kind and caring. Older children initiate games with younger children, including them and supporting them to join in. All children are praised for their achievements, efforts and helpful behaviour.
- The indoor environment is well resourced with a variety of materials that support all children's play and development. The outdoor area, although covered, presents access challenges particularly after heavy rain, due to a steep bank and slippery mud. Despite this, staff prioritise outdoor play whenever it is safe and are actively working with the school to secure an alternative outdoor space when needed, ensuring children continue to benefit from both indoor and outdoor learning opportunities.
- Staff support children's communication and language skills effectively. They consistently engage in positive, meaningful interactions with children. They listen carefully and respond thoughtfully when children share their thoughts and ideas. Children communicate confidently with adults and their peers. Staff show genuine interest in what children say as they engage in conversations during play. This helps children to feel listened to and valued. These conversations help staff gain a deeper understanding of each child's individual experiences.
- Snack time provides a valuable social and learning opportunity. Children prepare their own wraps, selecting healthy options, and follow established routines, such

as washing their hands beforehand. Staff promote discussions about healthy eating, including occasional treats for celebrations. They also encourage conversations about cultural foods, such as those explored during Lunar New Year, broadening children's understanding of other cultures and traditions. Staff consistently promote children's independence. Children confidently manage self-care routines, know where to store their belongings and tidy away resources. These regular opportunities support the development of important life skills and build children's confidence.

- Staff plan a broad and engaging range of activities each day, some of which are based on children's own ideas and interests. Children are encouraged to lead their own play, select resources independently and communicate their needs confidently. They are invited to contribute to the planning process through conversations with staff and the use of an ideas board, which enables them to share their preferences and suggestions. Staff take account of this to inform daily planning, ensuring activities are responsive to children's interests. This inclusive approach promotes children's sense of ownership and helps them feel valued and respected.
- Staff implement consistent and effective strategies to promote positive behaviour. They provide clear, age-appropriate instructions that children respond to well. Children are actively involved in setting the rules for club. Staff model respectful behaviour and good manners. They use frequent praise to reinforce positive behaviour. Where reminders are necessary, these are delivered in a firm but friendly manner to maintain a safe and supportive environment. This approach helps children to clearly understand behavioural expectations and supports the development of their self-regulation and social skills.
- Staff manage collections and drop offs carefully to ensure children remain safe and well cared for. They have established strong, positive relationships with parents and families and communicate relevant information promptly to provide continuity of care. Staff work in partnership with parents, which is reflected in the positive feedback from families.
- All staff complete mandatory training, including safeguarding and first aid, and engage in additional professional development to enhance their skills. They have a clear understanding of the club's policies and procedures and implement these consistently to maintain a safe environment for children.

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	2768238
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10406543
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	121
Name of registered person	4 Community Trust Community Interest Company
Registered person unique reference number	2514819
Telephone number	07365526220
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

4 Community Trust Alder Coppice registered in 2023 and is in Dudley. The club opens from Monday to Friday, term time only. Sessions are from 7.30am to 9am and 3.15pm to 6pm. The club employs three members of staff, who all hold appropriate qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Sarah Dukes

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the club used by children.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the staff and children during the inspection.
- Children and staff spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed a range of documentation to demonstrate the suitability of staff.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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