

Inspection of Gerrards Cross After School Club

Gerrards Cross Youth Centre, East Common, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire SL9 7AD

Inspection date:

2 July 2025

The quality and standards of early years provision

This inspection

Met

Previous inspection

Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision meets requirements

Children arrive with enthusiasm and know the club routine well. They sit at tables for a light tea and chat enthusiastically about their school day and what they would like to do at the club. Children clearly enjoy the company of the staff, who make sure every child is occupied and happy. The staff set out a varied range of activities that reflect children's interests and abilities. Staff embrace children's ideas when planning activities, and children know where to find additional resources to extend or vary their play.

The staff know the children well and understand their needs. For example, there are secure arrangements in place to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff liaise closely with the school and parents to ensure consistent care is provided. This helps children to feel emotionally secure at the club.

Staff have high expectations for children's behaviour and promote mutual respect and cooperation. Older children are encouraged to support younger ones, such as by helping them at snack time and being mindful during ball sports to avoid kicking balls where younger children are quietly drawing. Staff calmly remind the children of the club rules. They line up to wash their hands and wait patiently as food is passed to them. Children respond well to instructions, which contributes to the club's harmonious atmosphere.

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

- Staff ensure that children experience a healthy lifestyle while at the club. They provide a variety of nutritious snacks, fruits and vegetables at mealtimes and have drinks readily available to help children stay hydrated. Staff ensure that children remain hydrated by reminding them to take water bottles outside and drink at regular intervals. Children enjoy being physically active in the vast outdoor space. They enjoy practising their gymnastics skills on the grass and perfecting their ball skills as they score goals against each other. Children and staff celebrate the children's achievements as they cheer each other on and comment on their good skills.
- Areas where children play are filled with chatter and laughter. Staff listen intently when children talk about their experiences, such as what they have enjoyed at school and where they have been on holiday. Staff show a genuine interest and share information about themselves too. This helps children to develop a sense of belonging and they enjoy the opportunity to share their experiences.
- Staff work closely to provide well-supervised, enjoyable experiences. They share key information to ensure smooth transitions and consistent care from familiar

adults. Staff are positive role models and show kindness and empathy to others. This helps children to understand how to respond to others' feelings. Children build strong friendships and cooperate well. Warm bonds between staff and children help each child feel seen, heard and valued.

- Staff are vigilant in their observations of children, enabling them to manage risks independently. For instance, when playing outside, staff deploy themselves across all areas to ensure they can clearly see all children. As a result, children learn how to play responsibly and to keep themselves and others safe.
- Parents and carers say they are very happy with the care that staff provide at the club. They report that their children enjoy their time and praise the familiar and friendly staff. Parents describe the club as being like 'home-from-home'. They appreciate the individual routines that staff carry out for their children. Parents report that staff pass on any messages from school and inform them of any accidents or incidents that may occur. Parent partnerships are strong.
- The management team are experienced and committed to providing quality care. They actively seek feedback from children and parents to inform future developments. Staff speak highly of the support they receive from leaders, valuing open communication and a strong team ethos. They feel appreciated and well supported in their roles. Leaders regularly evaluate the provision to ensure staff are well prepared and suitable, contributing to the high-quality care that children receive.

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	EY254436
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	10399629
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	55
Name of registered person	Gerrards Cross After School Club Committee
Registered person unique reference number	RP903620
Telephone number	07517 674 091
Date of previous inspection	9 December 2019

Information about this early years setting

Gerrards Cross After School Club registered in 2001. It operates from a youth centre in Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. The breakfast club operates from 7.40am until 9am, and the after-school club operates from 3.30pm until 6pm, Monday to Friday, term time only. The club employs seven members of staff, of whom one holds appropriate early years qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Chris Lamey

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with leaders about the leadership and management of the setting.
- Children talked to the inspector about what they like to do in the club.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector viewed relevant documents, including evidence of the suitability checks carried out on staff.
- Several parents shared their views of the club 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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