

Inspection of The Hive

St. Katharines Knockholt C Of E Primary School, Main Road, Knockholt, Sevenoaks
TN14 7LS

Inspection date:

24 September 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 warmly welcomed at this happy club. Staff smile and greet children when they arrive, asking about their day. Younger children who have only recently started, settle in very well. This supports children's emotional well-being positively. Staff set up a range of activities and games for children to explore. For example, children eagerly join in colouring and creating their own pictures using a variety of pencils and crayons that staff have provided for them. They talk excitedly with staff about their designs and staff praise them. This helps support children's positive attitudes and self-esteem.

Staff show genuine interest in children. They engage in meaningful conversations with children about what they are doing. For example, staff ask children about their models when children show an interest in large building blocks. Staff offer helpful suggestions to develop children's thinking skills. Children respond well, displaying confidence and perseverance, working together to create large structures. Children know the routines of the club well. Staff gently remind them of the rules when playing outside to ensure they remain safe. Children quickly wash their hands before making their own healthy wraps at snack time. These activities effectively support children to keep healthy and safe.

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

- Children benefit from a well set up environment. Staff provide children with a range of toys and games to support their engagement and social skills. For example, older children delight in playing games together, taking turns with bats and balls. Young children sustain concentration when making pictures, supporting their imagination successfully.
- Staff promote children's safety well. They remind children to wait before they open the gate and explain to children how to use the outdoor toys, so they don't have accidents. Staff undertake regular risk assessments to ensure the premises and equipment are safe. Children know to tell an adult when they go to the toilet and look out for their friends.
- Staff are good role models. They are sensitive in their interactions with children. For example, where needed, they gently remind children to be polite to their friends. However, not all staff explain to children about the impact of their behaviour to help develop understanding further. Despite this, children develop positive friendships and are well mannered.
- Children's independence skills are promoted well. Older children know to collect their own things when it is time to go home. Younger children are encouraged to help pack toys away when they have finished. Children enjoy choosing different vegetables when creating their own wraps at snack time. These activities help

support children's confidence in their own abilities.

- Leaders and managers ensure staff undertake a range of training to support them in their roles. The staff team work well together. They are encouraged to develop their own knowledge and skills to ensure they offer good quality care. For example, staff have recently completed further safeguarding training to enhance their understanding.
- Staff have developed strong partnerships with the onsite school. They have developed positive relationships with the local community to support families and have positive plans for the future to develop the club. The headteacher talks highly of the club and the valuable resource it offers. Staff provide flexible sessions to help parents with their working hours.
- Children say they enjoy attending the club and look forward to seeing their friends and staff. Parents report that their children love coming and want to go every day. Parents appreciate the feedback about what their children have been doing at the club and the ease in which they can register their children to attend. They recommend the club to other families in the area.

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	2800726
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10416987
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 10
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	58
Name of registered person	Samuelsie Farm Ltd
Registered person unique reference number	2800727
Telephone number	07843416947
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The Hive registered in 2024. It is located on the site but is independent of, St Katharines Knockolt C of E Primary School, in the village of Knockolt, near Sevenoaks in Kent. The setting is open from 7.30am to 8.30am and 3.15pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, during school term times.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Victoria Salisbury

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The inspector spoke to children, to find out about their time at the setting.
- The inspector talked to staff at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between staff and children.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation as requested.

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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