



Camp Energy After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	226262
Inspection date	05 September 2006
Inspector	Mark Evans
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Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Out of School care

ABOUT THIS INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality of childcare and, if applicable, of nursery education. The inspection was carried out under Part XA Children Act 1989 as introduced by the Care Standards Act 2000 and, where nursery education is provided, under Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding; and, where nursery education is provided, the *Curriculum guidance for the foundation stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration or 1 April 2004 whichever is the later.

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

For more information about early years inspections, please see the booklet *Are you ready for your inspection?* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Camp Energy is registered as an Out of School facility operating from Greenfield's Sports and Social Club on the edge of the town centre. The after school club provides collection of children from Mountfields Primary School and Sacred Heart School, both of which are within walking distance of the setting.

Children have access to the main room of the social club, with additional use of the bar area, and has access to the Mountfield School playing field for outdoor play activities. The club operates from Monday to Friday during term time, from 15:00 to 18:00.

Care is provided for no more than 40 children aged from three years to under to eight years at any one time. There are five members of staff who work with children. Two staff hold level three qualifications and one has a level two qualification in Playwork.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are healthy because they use suitable hygiene practices whilst at the out of school club. For example, they wash their hands with soap after toileting and have individual hand drying. The environment is generally clean and hygienic, which helps to prevent the spread of infection. Children's well-being is sustained through recording and monitoring any accidents, having arrangements for safe administration of medicines and clear agreement for emergency medical advice or treatment. However, there are not always sufficient staff on duty with current first aid training and on these occasions there are inadequate arrangements to respond to any injuries.

Children use various types of outdoor equipment and have games that provide challenge, for example, during adult organised 'Olympic' games. This supports their continued physical development and coordination. Children enjoy the freedom of regular outdoor play and they benefit from the fresh air and exercise.

Children have sound awareness of healthy eating and have a satisfactory range of foods, for example, having sandwiches with protein fillings and fruit each day. Their dietary health is maintained because records are kept of any food requirements and staff are knowledgeable about children's dietary needs and provide accordingly for this. Children have various drinks available, including drinking water and can serve themselves at any time during their session. As a consequence, they are well hydrated and comfortable.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

Children have comfortable accommodation for their care and play. They can involve themselves in quiet activities or be active in their play when outdoors. Toys and resources are maintained in safe condition, which protects children from potential harm. Children are also kept safe through staff monitoring visitors into the setting and by having written risk assessments. However, a record of visitors is not kept and the premises are not secure with regard to children being able to leave unsupervised. Children develop awareness of keeping safe because staff talk to them about such issues, for example, what to do in the event of a fire and through their involvement in evacuation practises.

Children's welfare is not fully safeguarded because some staff have inadequate knowledge of child protection issues and procedures. The up-dated child protection policy is not held at the setting. The policy which is currently available does not provide sufficient guidance for staff to protect children, in accordance with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures, and has incorrect details.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are well settled and they spend time involved in activities and with games. The setting encourages the children to talk about activities that they are interested in so that they have influence and opportunity to make decisions about what they play with. Children confidently explore their environment and select resources to use. Children are creative through use of art and craft materials. However, use of role play and small world play is limited and as a consequence this restricts children's opportunities to use their imagination and socialise. They enjoy outdoor play and games and benefit from the sense of freedom and opportunity to be active. Staff involve themselves in some of the children's activities to offer support, to interact and talk about matters that are significant to the children. Children have sound relationships with adults at the setting and this helps their sense of security and well-being. They have sound levels of independence and enjoy activities that encourage self help skills, for example, making sandwiches.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are treated as individuals and are welcomed into the setting. Those with additional needs integrate well because staff support relevant aspects of care. Children engage in some activities that help them to develop awareness of people from the wider community, for example, making a dragon for the Chinese New Year and other activities related to Diwali. Although there are some books that promote positive diversity images, the range of toys and resources for this within the setting are limited.

Children behave well and respond to adults because staff discuss expectations and safe conduct. For example, staff talk to the children about fire evacuation and what to do. Children's behaviour is managed positively by staff. They engage them in activities and support their self esteem through praise and encouragement, which subsequently helps their confidence. Children work well together when engaging in joint activities and they have good social skills, helped by playing games where they have to share and take turns. Staff talk to parents about their children each day, which helps to develop positive relationships and continuity in care for the children. However, parents have limited access to information on the setting and are not aware of which policies are available and how to obtain these. This restricts parents from making informed decisions.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children are able to access play equipment and make some choices of what to use, although the room is not well organised to encourage and fully utilise various types of play. Staff are deployed to provide suitable supervision and this also allows children to have some one to one interaction with adults. Availability of staff with relevant training and qualifications is not always sufficient to ensure that there are suitable numbers of adults with appropriate skills and knowledge to fully support children's welfare and well-being. For example, at the time of

inspection there was only one staff member with a level two qualification and no staff with first aid training. Although there are vetting procedures in place to check suitability of staff, these are not always fully initiated when new staff start their position and Ofsted is not notified of changes to senior staff members.

There are some aspects of policy and documentation that are not in place and this does not fully support or safeguard children's welfare. For example, the only available child protection policy does not provide adequate information, there is no record for staff attendance, no record of visitors and parents are not provided with sufficient information that includes details of the setting and policy details. Overall, the setting does not meet the needs of the children who attend.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was required to ensure written parental consent is obtained to seek emergency advice and treatment and ensure Ofsted is informed of any relevant changes at the earliest opportunity. Parents are now asked to give their consent for any emergency advice or treatment so that there are clear arrangements to support children's welfare. Notification to Ofsted for any significant events or changes is not always implemented.

Complaints since the last inspection

There are no complaints to report since the last inspection. The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.

THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF THE CARE

On the basis of the evidence collected on this inspection:

The quality and standards of the care are inadequate - notice of action to improve. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

To improve the quality and standards of care, the registered person **must** take the following actions:

- ensure that vetting of new staff is rigorous and robust and initiated to check their suitability
- demonstrate how you will ensure that training and qualification requirements are met with regard to levels of staff on duty with level two and three qualifications and first aid training and that there is a named deputy
- that positive steps to promote safety within the setting to ensure that the premises are secure so that children are unable to leave unsupervised

- make sure that a child protection procedure is available, which complies with those of the Local Safeguarding Children Board; that it includes procedures to be followed in the event of an allegation being made against a staff member or volunteer and develop staff knowledge of child protection issues and procedures
- ensure that Ofsted is notified of any significant changes or events at the earliest opportunity
- make sure that all records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision and to promote the welfare, care and learning of the children are maintained and available for inspection.

These actions are set out in a *notice of action to improve* and must be completed by the date specified in the notice.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Building better childcare: Compliments and concerns about inspectors' judgements* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk