

Camp Energy After School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	226262
Inspection date	07 August 2007
Inspector	Mark Evans
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Registered person	The Governing Body of Loughborough College of Further Education
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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Camp Energy After School Club is registered as an out of school facility operating from Greenfield's Sports and Social Club on the edge of the Loughborough town centre. The out of school club operates in the main function room with additional use of the bar area and toilets. Access to an adjacent school playing field provides children with outdoor play and activities. The club operates on Monday to Friday inclusive during term time from 15:15 to 18:00 and from 08:30 to 17:30 during school holidays. Children can be collected from local schools for after school care.

Care is provided for no more than 40 children aged from three years to under eight years at any one time. There are seven members of staff available to work with the children. Four staff hold Level 3 childcare qualifications and one has a Level 2 qualification in playwork.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children keep healthy because they use appropriate hygiene practices in their daily routines, for example, washing their hands before eating and after toileting. They understand the reasons for such practice because staff talk to them about this and remind them to keep the washing areas in suitable condition. The premises are in satisfactory hygienic condition, which helps to reduce the potential for cross-infection and to keep children healthy. The setting records and monitors any accidents and the administration of medicines. However, there are occasions where written parental consent is not obtained for the administration of medicines or the application of sun barrier cream, which potentially compromises children's health.

For after school care the setting provides a healthy and balanced range of foods, for example, salad foods with tortilla wraps, fruit, sandwiches, crumpets and toast. The setting encourages parents and children to provide suitable foods in their packed lunches during the holiday periods to promote dietary health. Children have sound knowledge of healthy eating and are able to explain which foods are nutritious to eat and maintain good health. The setting obtains information on any special dietary needs and provides accordingly to keep children healthy. Children have good access to drinks using jugs and cups to help themselves, which keeps them well hydrated and comfortable. They are aware of the importance of good hydration because staff explain this to them, particularly at times when they are active in warm weather.

Children continue to develop coordination and control of their bodies through outdoor games and activities. For example, they enjoy playing team games such as cricket and develop their skills to bowl, bat and catch. They use various types of outdoor apparatus, including balancing equipment, balls and hoops. Children are keen to play outdoors and benefit from the sense of freedom, fresh air and exercise.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children have comfortable and safe accommodation for their care and play and the premises are made warm and welcoming to children and parents. For example, there is displayed information for parents in the entrance area, including photographs of the staff, and the room is organised with a range of inviting activities for the children. The room areas have suitable furniture that allow children to relax or be active and are in a satisfactory state of décor. Children are kept safe because staff monitor visitors to the setting and effectively supervise, for example, to and from the toilet areas. Written risk assessments for the premises and for outings help to reduce risk and keep children safe. However, the risk assessment does not include security of the outdoor area and this potentially compromises children's safety.

Staff discuss and explain safe practices with children, such as remembering not to get water on the floor of the toilet area to prevent others slipping and they take some responsibility for safe practice by discussing and establishing ground rules. Children have access to resources and play equipment that is maintained in suitable condition to keep them safe. Their welfare is safeguarded because staff have sound knowledge of child protection issues through training and there are written procedures for safeguarding children with contact details for relevant agencies.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are relaxed and comfortable in the setting and they show high levels of involvement in the available activities and games. For example, children help to organise role play scenarios, such as a day nursery setting, and fully engage themselves in this valuable type of play. Although staff plan for a range of activities, they encourage children to follow their interests and to influence what they would like to do through discussion. This gives children opportunity to make decisions and be involved in activities they enjoy. Children enjoy talking about significant matters and events to others within groups, for example, to share information on a recent holiday. This helps them to feel valued and to develop confidence.

Children use opportunities to express their creativity, for example, by using collage materials to decorate picture frames and through painting and drawing. They enjoy using their imagination with small world play figures and using construction sets to build additional items to support this play. This encourages them to be relaxed and to develop achievement and pleasure from their activity. Staff effectively involve themselves in some activities to interact and support children's play and development. Children have secure and respectful relationships with adults at the setting and this supports their sense of security and well-being.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are respected and made welcome at the setting and they are treated as individuals. Children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities integrate well because the setting takes steps to support their individual needs. Children are involved in some activities that inform of people and cultures from around the world, for example, by discussing aspects of a different country each day and making items such as flags. However, there are few play resources and books that reflect positive images of diversity and this limits children's familiarity and contact with such materials.

Children are aware of behavioural boundaries and show sound levels of social behaviour. They help to take responsibility for behaviour in the club by discussing and agreeing rules. Children's self-esteem and confidence is supported through praise for effort and through positive staff interaction. They work well together when engaging in joint activities, for example, playing cricket, pool and in role play. Parents receive information about the setting and have suitable access to written policies, which enables them to make informed decisions about the care of their child. Staff have some regular discussion with parents and this helps to provide continuity for the children.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children benefit from the suitable and creative organisation of the room. Different types of play are identified in specified areas, which helps to focus play and involvement. Staff deployment provides safe and secure adult to child ratios and gives children opportunity to seek individual adult interaction. Children are cared for by a staff group who have suitable skills and knowledge to support their welfare through holding relevant qualifications and undertaking training such as first aid, child protection, anti-bullying and food safety and hygiene. Secure vetting procedures are in place to check suitability of staff and keep children safe. Most aspects

of policy and documentation are in place and readily available to staff and parents. This supports the safe and efficient management of the setting and helps to safeguard children's welfare. Overall, the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting was required to improve vetting procedures; ensure that staff training and deployment requirements are met; ensure security arrangements; develop child protection procedures; ensure that Ofsted is notified of significant changes or events and to make sure that all records, policies and procedures are in place for efficient and safe management of the provision.

The setting ensures that all staff undergo vetting procedures, provides staff with relevant qualifications and has satisfactory arrangements for staff to deputise for the manager. Security is maintained through suitable arrangements, such as staff supervising children to and from the toilet areas. Staff have sound knowledge of child protection procedures through relevant training, the child protection policy has been reviewed and includes procedures for allegations against staff. Records and policies have been reviewed and improved to ensure that they support the safe and efficient management of the provision. All of these aspects help to maintain and promote children's welfare and safety.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the National Standards.

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 satisfactory. The registered person meets 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 further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that parents give prior written permission to administer any medication
- review risk assessment of the premises to include the security of the outdoor play area, with an action plan and timescales that identify action taken to minimise any risks
- develop the range of resources that promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the leaflet *Complaints about Ofsted Early Years: concerns or complaints about Ofsted's role in regulating and inspecting childcare and early education (HMI ref no 2599)* which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk