

# Newcastle Under Lyme School

Inspection report for early years provision

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| <b>Unique Reference Number</b> | EY243123  |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 02 August 2007                                    |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Jacqueline Mason                                  |
| <b>Setting Address</b>         | Mount Pleasant, Newcastle, Staffordshire, ST5 1DB |
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| <b>Registered person</b>       | The King's Foundation                             |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Childcare   |
| <b>Type of care</b>            | 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](http://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?

The King's Foundation has been operating since 1993. The camp is based within Newcastle-Under-Lyme School. It operates from one large room, the indoor sports hall and an indoor swimming pool. Outdoor sporting facilities include a large, enclosed Astroturf area. The setting serves the local area.

The setting is registered to care for up to 96 children. There are currently 75 children on roll.

The sports camp operates during the Easter and Summer holidays. It opens from Monday to Friday. Sessions are from 08.30 until 17.45 with the main sporting activities taking place from 10.00 until 16.00. Children attend for a variety of sessions.

The Kings Foundation has additional sports camps registered throughout the country.

## THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is satisfactory.

Satisfactory hygiene routines are in place that help increase children's understanding of the importance of washing their hands to maintain good health. However, the facilities for drying their hands are poor. Children are encouraged to wash their hands on entry to the 'Xtra Time' room before snack and lunch but tables are not cleaned before children eat. There are some procedures in place to limit the spread of infection. For example, arrangements for sick children are effective to ensure that the best interests of all children are met. Clear exclusion periods are in place for infectious illnesses and these are displayed on the main door to ensure that parents and carers are aware of them. Although parental permission has not been obtained to seek emergency medical advice or treatment there are good arrangements in place for recording accidents and any medication dispensed to children.

Children's dietary needs are mostly met by parents and carers as they provide meals for their children. Lunch boxes are stored adequately. The provision provides a biscuit during the afternoon break and special dietary needs can be met. There are designated break times in which children can eat and also have a drink. However, there are no arrangements to ensure that fresh drinking water is available to children at all times and this results in children becoming thirsty.

The promotion of physical development is very good. This provision is a sports scheme in which children take part in active physical activities for most of the day. Children are able to access a wide variety of ball games, such as softball and football, in addition to other sports, such as fencing and swimming. This helps to contribute to promoting a healthy lifestyle for all children.

### **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is satisfactory.

The physical environment is welcoming to parents, carers and children helping them to be confident and settled. Staff greet children by name and chat to parents and carers as they arrive to bring their children. Some art work is displayed. Children move directly into team games on arrival at the main, sports based, part of the day. The outdoor space that is used is alongside the sports hall. It is fully enclosed by fencing and well maintained. The equipment for the sports activities is appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children attending.

Security is not robust to prevent children from leaving the premises unsupervised. The sports hall and 'Xtra time' rooms are not locked when in use and therefore unauthorised persons are able to access the premises. However, the outdoor area is fenced and it is possible to see persons approaching. There are clearly defined procedures for emergency evacuation. Children know what to do to keep themselves safe. For example, they are aware of the assembly point outside. Thorough risk assessments are carried out to ensure that activities are safe for children to take part in and that hazards to children are minimized. There is a qualified lifeguard to supervise water-sports.

Children are protected because of good procedures for their collection to ensure that they are not able to leave with persons not nominated by parents and carers. Each child is issued with a security card that includes a unique reference number. Persons collecting the children need

to be able to quote that number in order to be allowed to collect the child. There are effective procedures in place for lost or uncollected children and registers are taken regularly to ensure that all children are present. Children are further protected because staff have an appropriate awareness of child protection issues. Staff complete an on-line training course implemented by 'Kings Camps' and this includes child protection training. Staff are confident to report concerns to ensure that children's welfare is safeguarded.

### **Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is good.

A consistent routine is followed that helps children to develop a sense of belonging. They know what happens next, for example, at the end of the first session of the day they go up to the 'Xtra time' room for snack and they know that they go to the bathroom to wash their hands before eating.

Staff plan a varied sports programme that encourages children to take part in a wide range of sporting activities, including ball games, team games, swimming and fencing. Activities are planned that are appropriate to the children's age and level of understanding. Children have fun whilst they learn, such as taking part in activities using floats during swimming sessions.

Children enjoy attending the setting and have fun whilst developing sporting skills. They are engaged in a varied range of sporting activities and in addition there are some opportunities to access art and craft activities. Confidence and self-esteem are promoted and children are enthusiastic about joining in the interesting sporting activities that are planned. Activities are led by sports coaches and care workers who have very good relationships with the children. Children enjoy chatting to them and staff show a good interest in what they say and do. Staff listen and value what children say, talk to them about what they are doing and have high expectations of what they can achieve. Children are encouraged to learn whilst they are taking part, for example, children learn simple mental arithmetic as they add numbers together to find out if it is their turn to run during sports sessions. Children respond well to this and enjoy the challenges.

### **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is good.

All children and adults are treated with equal concern. Children's individual needs are met with regard to ensuring that sport activities are appropriate to the age and level of ability of the children. Staff are good at ensuring younger and less able children are supported and extra help is given where needed. Children are encouraged to take part in all sports activities regardless of gender. For example, girls as well as boys are encouraged to play football. There are currently no children on roll with learning difficulties and/or disabilities but there are effective procedures in place to ensure that such children are included in all activities and their individual needs met.

There are effective procedures in place to manage unwanted behaviour. Staff chat to children about the importance of good behaviour to ensure the safety of all children and also talk to them about bullying and the need for children to report such incidents. Adult handling of behaviour is consistent and appropriate to the age and level of understanding of the children attending, helping children to learn right from wrong. Children behave well and staff value and

praise good behaviour. Certificates for good behaviour and individual efforts are awarded to children and this helps encourage their self-esteem and confidence.

Staff have friendly and trusting relationships with parents and carers. Parents and carers are issued with 'welcome packs' that gives them information about the setting to help them make informed choices about their children's care. The complaints procedure and other relevant information is also displayed on the door to the 'Xtra time' room. Information is shared daily with parents and carers to keep them informed about the provision and their children's day.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are cared for by a consistent staff and this helps to promote confidence and a sense of belonging. They are grouped appropriately, according to age and ability, in order that activities can be planned that are appropriate, challenging but manageable. Space is organised well to meet children's individual needs. Children have sufficient adult support to be settled and confident. A daily attendance register is maintained for each child, recording the times of arrival and departure to ensure that staff know which children are on site at all times. Children are signed out by the person collecting them at the end of the day.

Most necessary documentation, necessary for the safe and efficient running of the setting, is in place. However, written records relating to children and staff are not stored securely to ensure that confidentiality is maintained. In addition to the inspection carried out by Ofsted, the setting is also inspected by the British Activity Holiday Association (BAHA). The BAHA inspection indicates that the scheme has suitably qualified staff. The King's Camp carries out background checks on all of its staff. Staff who have not completed such checks are not left alone with children. In this way, children are protected from persons who have not been deemed suitable. 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 demonstrate how the supervisor will achieve a level three qualification, at least half of the staff will have appropriate level two qualifications and to ensure that at least one member of staff was on site at all times who has a first aid qualification. In addition it was recommended that the storage of records should be reviewed to ensure that they are stored confidentially.

As a result of the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) making changes to the qualification requirements, the setting is deemed to have suitably qualified staff because it has had a successful BAHA inspection. Some staff have attended first aid training to ensure that there is a member of staff on site who is qualified. This ensures that children's health needs can be met if they have an accident.

No improvement has been made to the storage of documentation and this has been brought forward as a recommendation from this inspection.

### **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):

- improve the procedures to promote good hygiene
- ensure that fresh drinking water is available to children at all times
- obtain written parental permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment
- improve the security of the setting to ensure that children are not able to leave unsupervised and unauthorised persons do not have access
- improve the storage of documentation to ensure that confidentiality is maintained

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)