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Super Camps @ Heathfield School

Inspection report for early years provision

Better education and care

Unique Reference Number Inspection date Inspector	EY303316 20 April 2006 Jennifer Devine
Setting Address	Heathfield School, Beaulieu Drive, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 1NB
Telephone number E-mail	020 8868 2346
Registered person	Super Camps Ltd
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?

Super Camps holiday play scheme is run by Super Camps Limited. It opened in 2005 and operates from Heathfield School in Pinner, in the London Borough of Hillingdon. A maximum of 80 children may attend the camp at any one time. Children over 8 years and up to 13 years may also attend. The camp is open each weekday from 8.00 to 18.00 during the Easter and Summer school holidays. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

During the Easter school holidays on the day of inspection there were 30 children

from 3 to 8 years on roll. The numbers of children on roll varies from day to day.

The camp employs 8 staff of whom 2 staff, who work with the children under 8 years, are qualified. Other staff are students at college or university.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children's well being is not fully protected as staff are unaware of the policy and procedures for the administration of medication. Parents have not given written consent to administer medication and no records have been maintained. Appropriate accident procedures are in place which includes a designated first aider. This ensures children welfare is safeguarded in the event of an accident.

Children's health is promoted by generally good standards of hygiene within the setting. Children have a thorough understanding of the importance of good personal hygiene and know to wash their hands after using the toilet or before eating.

Children's physical health is well promoted by the play scheme. They have daily opportunities to take part in a wide range of activities and various sports, indoors and outside on the playing fields. Children enjoy and are well nourished by the healthy foods offered to them. All children have a packed lunch provided from home and information is given to parents on suitable foods to provide and the use of ice packs to keep foods consumable. Children's individual dietary needs are known by staff but sharing of food is not monitored closely enough, which impacts on children with dietary needs eating foods they may be allergic to.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

Children's safety within the play scheme is not adequately protected during some specialist activities. The ratios of staff when children are swimming is inadequate. For example, eleven children from the Starters group were swimming with floats, with the lifeguard in the water and one member of staff on the poolside who was also supervising a child not swimming. Inadequate risk assessments are carried out on some equipment and staff do not fully recognise hazards. For example, on the bouncy castle there are two round windows on the side walls, one window was covered with safety netting to prevent children falling out but the other window was not protected.

Fire procedures are in place and regular weekly fire drills are performed to ensure children are aware of the evacuation process.

Space is well organised to allow the children to engage in planned activities. There is a comfortable area for children to relax and look at books.

Children are protected from harm because the staff have a generally good knowledge of child abuse and understand the procedures to follow for child protection. Satisfactory security devises are in place such as the monitoring of the entrance which is then kept locked during operational hours.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are enthusiastic and self assured in the play scheme's welcoming environment. Staff plan in advance exciting activities which are timetabled through out the day. Each day of the week has different activities for the children to experience. Children are grouped according to their ages and they actively participate in a wide range of activities such as arts and crafts, cold cookery, giant bubble blowing and dancing. They have lots of fun when painting, sticking or making things, for example when making clay faces.

Children have very good opportunities to take part in various sports activities during the day such as football and swimming. There are also times planned for children to engage in quieter activities, such as reading books. Children are able to take turns when playing games and are kind and considerate towards to each other. Children are happy and content at the play scheme. Staff interact well with the children; they laugh, join in games and have fun with them as well as giving them support when needed. Consequently, children are confident to approach them and express their needs.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children have the opportunity to socialise with others from the local and wider community. Children are valued and respected as individuals. Appropriate praise and encouragement is given to enhance self esteem and confidence. Children's behaviour is good and they know what is expected of them. Appropriate strategies are in place to manage any behavioural difficulties. Children work well together, sharing and taking turns with activities.

Children benefit from good relationships between the staff and their parents which contributes to their well being. Information about the play scheme is available for parents to consult, ensuring they are aware of how their child is spending their day. Parents are welcomed into the play scheme at the beginning and end of the day and have the opportunity to share any relevant information to ensure their child's are met.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

Children's health and welfare is not adequately promoted because the provider and manager fail to respond appropriately to ensure the National Standards are met. Risk

assessments are not rigorous enough to ensure children's safety is paramount at all times. The setting does not meet the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

The manager and deputy hold suitable childcare qualifications and are deployed to supervise the Starters and Adventurers groups. Although minimum staffing ratios are met overall, there are a number of times when either the manager or deputy would be out of the room for a considerable period of time. For example, the deputy was called away during the swimming activity with the Starters group, which left the other member of staff alone.

There are good systems in place for recording children's attendance and accurate accident records are maintained but other legally required documents are not in use or available for inspection. For example, the manager was not aware of the requirement to have children's personal details available.

Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they 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:

- keep a written record, signed by parents, of medicines given to children
- assess the risks to children in relation to activities and take action to minimise these

- ensure children's records are kept on site at all times and available for inspection
- ensure that minimum staffing ratios are in place at all times

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*