



Camp Beaumont (Woodford)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	128410
Inspection date	21 August 2006
Inspector	Carol Brown
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Registered person	Britannia Learning & Leisure Ltd, TA Camp Beaumont
Type of inspection	Childcare
Type of care	Full day 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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Camp Beaumont is an established out of school day camp. It operates from Bancroft's school on the edge of Woodford Green in Essex. It is a day camp for children from three to 15 years old.

It is mainly an activity centre offering sporting and creative choices for children. They have use of the Preparatory School block, playing fields, tennis courts and the swimming pool, which is in the main block of Bancroft's school.

There are currently 64 children from three to under eight years old who are on roll. Children attend a variety of sessions. The day camp supports a number of children with disabilities and learning difficulties.

The day camp operates during the school summer holidays from the 24th July to 25th August. The scheme operates between the hours of 8:30 to 18:00 Monday to Friday.

There are 26 staff employed on a full and part time basis. Those working with the three to under eight year olds have a mixture of early years qualifications or are attaining a qualification, 50% of the staff hold appropriate early years qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a clean and hygienic environment. Effective daily routines and clear explanations support children's understanding of good hygiene practices. For example, they are gently reminded by the staff to wash their hands before meals and after using the toilet. The staff are positive role models, as they discuss health issues with children and ensure that all areas are kept clean and safe. Five staff have current first aid qualifications. This means they can give appropriate care in the event of accident. Parents are required to give prior written consent for the administration of medication. Children who are able to self medicate are supported by the staff. Most accident records are signed by parents, however, two of these records were not signed by parents.

Children enjoy a diverse range of activities, which contribute to their good health. For example, they have access to a varied and stimulating range of outdoor activities, which develop their physical skills. These include football, archery, bouncy castles, trampolining and swimming, which are supervised by suitably qualified staff. Children's physical skills and co-ordination are further supported as they have weekly access to circus based skills, for example, plate spinning, learning to ride unicycles and juggling.

Parents are required to provide packed lunches. These are stored in the school fridge to ensure that they are maintained at the optimum temperature and reduce the risk to children. Mealtimes for children are a positive social experience as the children and staff eat together. Fresh drinking water is available at all times.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. They are able to move around safely and independently, as a result of effective risk assessments and the supervision of the staff. Staff deployment is good and guarantees that children are well-supervised all times. The children are able to talk about safety issues, for example, not running indoors. Children are encouraged to tidy toys away before moving on to another activity. Children's safety is well-promoted as the setting employs qualified coaches and life guards for specialist activities, for example, archery and swimming.

Children are provided with a varied and stimulating range of activities and resources, which are age appropriate, provide sufficient challenge and are safe. Resources are easily accessible and therefore children are able to select toys and equipment that interest them. There are effective procedures in place for the safe arrival and collection of children, as they are only released into the care of a known adult.

Children are well-protected. This is because the staff have a good understanding of the physical and emotional signs, which could indicate child protection issues and the appropriate procedures to follow to record and report any concerns.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children obviously enjoy their time at the scheme. They are beginning to form friendships and actively seek one another out. The children are provided with a varied and stimulating range of activities and resources, which are well-presented and offer them choice and variety. The children talk confidently about the activities provided and what particularly interests them, for example, "I did plate spinning today, I had one in each hand and one balanced on my head" and "I've been on the trampoline and jumped almost up into the sky". Activities are provided, which take into account children's ages, maturity and ability. For example, 6-7 year olds played a murder mystery game after lunch. Children are given support and encouragement to develop new skills, for example, younger children are supported by staff to remove blocks from a tower whilst keeping the structure stable.

Children have ample opportunities for indoor and outdoor activities as the daily plans provide a balance between physical activities and indoor games, free play and craft based activities. Interaction between children and staff is positive. The staff listen to children's suggestions and thoughts and encourage them to share their ideas. The use of open ended questioning supports children's thinking, language development and problem solving skills. Children are becoming competent learners as they are encouraged to make choices, explore and investigate and ask questions. Children make good progress as the staff are highly motivated and recognise individuality.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are developing positive relationships with each other and the staff. Children and staff come from a variety of backgrounds, which helps them to recognise and value difference and similarity within society. They are provided with a broad range of resources, which depict positive images of society and helps them to develop their knowledge and understanding of the wider community.

The setting supports the inclusion of children with special educational needs, disabilities and those who have English as an additional language. Positive communication with parents ensures that children's individual needs are met.

Children's behaviour is generally good, this is as a result of the staff having developed positive strategies to manage behaviour, which takes into account children's age, level of understanding and maturity. Children talk openly about the rules of the scheme and what behaviour is unacceptable, for example no running or climbing indoors. They show genuine care and consideration for others, for example, offering support if another child is upset.

Parents are welcomed into the setting and the staff spend time advising them of their child's progress. Parents provide the staff with relevant information regarding their children to enable appropriate care, for example, children's likes and dislikes. Parents are given daily verbal feedback as to their child's progress. Weekly activity plans, relevant policies and procedures are displayed for parents, which includes the complaints procedure. Parents are encouraged to attend the weekly show performed by the children.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Camp Beaumont (Woodford) meets the needs of the children for whom it provides. Daily routines help children to feel secure. Parents are provided with information relating to the services provided and are given daily verbal reports on their child's progress. Policies and procedures are used effectively, this promotes children's welfare and contributes to the smooth running of the provision. Generally the documentation required for the safe and effective running of the scheme is in place. However, some accident records have not been signed by parents. Children's care and development is supported through the staff's commitment to on-going training, this includes child protection. There are effective systems in place to keep children safe and enable them to make progress.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the previous inspection actions were raised in relation to notification to Ofsted of changes of manager and director and for the provision to obtain the Area Child Protection Committee Procedures and implement guidance. The scheme has notified Ofsted of changes to senior staff members to enable the appropriate checks to be carried out. The scheme now has the local Area Child Protection Committee Procedures, this ensures that staff and parents are aware of the appropriate procedures for reporting child protection concerns and further protects the welfare of the children.

Complaints 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 since April 2004. 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 good. 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 all accident records are signed by parents

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