

Cheltenham College (King's Camps)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference NumberEY321268Inspection date25 July 2006InspectorRuth Tharme

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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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Cheltenham College Holiday Playscheme runs from the sports centre attached to Cheltenham College which is in central Cheltenham. It is managed by King's Sports Camps and all places are pre-booked through the Head Office in Sheffield. The camp operates from this site during school holidays and is registered for 128 school-age children. Children attend from the local area and beyond. Children with special needs are supported. There are currently 28 children, aged from five years to eight years, on the roll. Care is also provided for older children, up to age 16.

Staff are mainly qualified teachers, many of whom have specific coaching

qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Documentation provides an accurate record of all medication administered to children. Details of parental consent, what was administered and a countersignature from parents are routinely recorded. Accidents involving children are also clearly recorded and shared with parents. Children's good health is actively promoted. Hygiene standards are high and a non-smoking environment is provided. Children take part in sporting activities, both in and out-of-doors, ensuring that they take regular exercise and have access to the fresh air. Care is taken to protect children from the effects of the summer sun. Staff ensure that children apply sun cream, wear a hat and take regular drinks of water.

Arrangement ensure that children are treated appropriately if they are ill or injured. Staff qualified to give first aid are always on site. All group leaders carry first aid equipment with them. Parents have been asked to give written consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment as necessary. There is a written exclusion policy for sick children to prevent the spread if infection.

Children have regular access to drinking water. They bring their own bottles but also have disposable cups and a drinking fountain available. Staff encourage children to refill their bottles at regular intervals. Parents are provided with clear information about food storage and are encouraged to provide ice packs to ensure that children's food is still fresh at lunch times. Staff discuss dietary issues with parents if necessary so children are provided with a healthy, balanced meal.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children benefit from a warm and welcoming environment. Staff greet children as they arrive. The purpose-built sports facilities are clean, warm and well maintained. Staff display examples of children's work to decorate walls and create a child-friendly environment. Space is ample for the numbers of children attending. They have access to a large sports hall, swimming pool, outdoor pitches and squash courts. Appropriate toilet facilities are available so children can use them in safety.

Sports activities are well resourced with a wide range of suitably maintained equipment. Children are provided with equipment appropriate to their age and ability level. Sporting resources are used under close adult supervision to ensure safety.

Staff know about health and safety procedures. They have all completed induction training which includes information on health and safety issues. They are well deployed to supervise children effectively and appropriate ratios are maintained to keep children safe.

Risks are identified and are addressed effectively to minimise the danger to children. There is a comprehensive risk-assessment programme in place which is reviewed at the beginning of each camp. Fire drills are held at the start of each week to ensure that all children and adults are aware of emergency evacuation procedures. Entry to the setting is monitored by staff at the reception desk. Effective procedures are in place for the safe collection and drop-off of children.

Staff have completed some basic child-protection training so they are able to identify a child who is possibly at risk. There are clearly written procedures in place for dealing with concerns so children are appropriately protected.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children take part in a selection of sporting activities which help them to make progress in all areas of their development. They enjoy swimming, tag rugby, soccer, basket ball, tennis and other team games. Children are able to make decisions for themselves, choosing, as part of a group, particular activities at specific times throughout the day. Staff provide a list of suggestions, or children can suggest their own ideas. There are frequent opportunities to try new experiences. Staff provide children with opportunities to try new sports and games throughout the week-long camp. The children relate well to each other. They learn to co-operate, take turns and share through sport. They are interested and enjoy their activities, joining in with enthusiasm. Children are confident and demonstrate good levels of self esteem. They take part in an exhibition or swimming gala at the end of the week, demonstrating their new skills to parents.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Staff request specific information on particular needs on the registration form to ensure that they are suitably informed and can meet individual needs accordingly. All children have access to the activities and resources. Children are encouraged to join in with team games regardless of gender. For example, many of the girls enjoy soccer or rugby. Themed activities such as 'Tour de France day' encourage children's knowledge and understanding of the wider world.

Children with special needs are given additional adult support where required, so they can access activities of their choosing. Staff work with parents to ensure that care provided is appropriate.

Staff know about, and implement procedures to manage children's behaviour effectively. They are familiar with the written policy and consistently use positive language when talking with children. There are clear ground rules which are shared with children on the first day of camp so they are aware of expected behaviours.

Specific information is requested from parents on the registration form to ensure that

care is provided in accordance with their wishes. Staff are available at the start and end of the daily sessions to discuss any concerns with them. Written information is provided for all parents to ensure that they are well informed about the setting. Documentation is routinely countersigned by parents, demonstrating that they are told about issues involving their child. A poster is displayed, advising parents on how to contact the regulator, should they have any concerns about the provision.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Staff complete induction training to ensure that they are well equipped for their roles. There are procedures in place to ensure that they are suitable to work with young children. Those who have not yet received clearance are supervised to ensure children's safety. Staff hold relevant teaching qualifications and the person in charge has four years experience of working at the camp.

There is a named deputy in place so cover can be assured in the event of absence or illness. Standard ratios are maintained so children receive appropriate levels of adult support. Children are grouped according to the age and ability to ensure that activities are safe and suitable.

Records are stored appropriately to maintain children's confidentiality. The certificate is displayed so parents have access to information about the conditions of registration. However there is no complaints log so they do not have access to information about any concerns parents may raise.

The setting meets the needs of the range of the children for whom it provides.

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 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):

• implement a system to record complaints, which is available to parents on request

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