



Kings Camps Nottingham University

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	254538
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Inspector	Alison Putnar
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Registered person	The King's Foundation
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?

Kings Camp at Nottingham University has been registered since 1998. The facility is registered to care for 176 children under eight years. There are currently 31 children under eight on roll. Children over eight years also attend. It operates from a sports centre on the University campus site in Nottingham. The group has access to a ground floor sports hall, an upper practice room, lower practice room, swimming pool and squash courts. There is also an outdoor Astro turf area and grassed area. Toilet facilities are available on the first and ground floors and in the swimming pool area. The play scheme operates between the hours of 08:30 to 17:30, five days a week, Monday to Friday for four weeks during the summer holidays and for one week

during the Easter break. There are 11 staff who have relevant qualifications and experience for their roles.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children's good health is maintained as they are cared for in a clean and suitable environment. Their individual health and medical needs catered for as staff follow clear procedures for administering medication safely. In the event of accidents children receive appropriate treatment and support as sufficient staff hold first aid qualifications. Records relating to accidents are comprehensively completed, systems are in place for sharing details of accidents with parents. These systems are not always consistently followed through, potentially compromising children's welfare. Children are encouraged to develop good hygiene routines as they are closely supervised when visiting the toilet and swimming changing areas. Staff respect children's privacy but remain close at hand to offer support and importantly protect children's safety when accessing these shared facilities.

Children have good opportunities to access refreshments, they bring lunch boxes and these are stored in accessible locations enabling children to access their drinks regularly. Staff are vigilant in reminding all children to take on fluids regularly during the warmer weather and after the sporting activities, ensuring children do not become dehydrated. In addition a water fountain is available for use by the children. Children develop a positive attitude to exercise and develop a wide range of physical skills as they access the multitude of sporting activities provided by the camp. They enjoy developing football, cricket, basket ball and swimming skills. Children also have good opportunities to take part in other physical activities outdoors and benefit from the fresh air these opportunities bring.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a well organised and safe environment. Space is used well to provide children with different areas for craft, sports and other group activities. A specific area is set up for the 'extra time' sessions, this ensures children feel secure and confident at the beginning and end of the day as they attend out of the core camp hours. Here children have access to additional games and craft activities until the core day begins. A welcoming environment is created as staff value and display children's art work, some information is displayed for parents. Children remain safe when using the various sports resources. Clear risk assessments are in place for all the sporting activities. Specialist coaches lead higher risk activities, such as, the swimming sessions. Children are constantly supervised and kept occupied, again reducing the risk of accidents.

Children begin to learn to take responsibility for their own safety as they join in

weekly discussions about safe practices. These include systems for safely crossing the car park to the swimming pool, safely using sports equipment and fire evacuation procedures. Fire drills are also practised with all staff and children at the start of the week. High staff to child ratios ensure children receive the support they need in appropriate sized groups. Suitable safety procedures and policies are in place, for example, clear systems ensure children are only released to known adults at the end of the day. Children's welfare is protected as staff have a suitable understanding of child protection procedures, although the procedures lack guidance on an appropriate course of action in the event of an allegation being made about a staff member, which potentially compromises children's safety.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are happy, confident and active at the setting. They enjoy the variety of activities offered at the 'extra time' sessions. Here they develop friendships when taking part in table tennis games together. They learn about each others interests through activities to create their own personal profile. Craft activities include painting, collage and clay modelling. For the core hours of the day children experience a wide range of sporting activities with increasing opportunities provided to extend children's enjoyment. Children speak of enjoying the dance, drama and team challenges. Children develop new friendships as they access activities in smaller age related groups. Occasionally mixed age group activities are organised which offer both older and younger children some positive opportunities to work together, fostering a sense of responsibility, achievement and pride for the varying ages. Children are well supported through the activities. Staff take time to become aware of children's needs and adapt activities accordingly. A younger, less confident child is given individual attention and encouragement during a swimming session. As a result, he feels confident to get in the water for the first time. Children are interested and engaged in the activities as staff enthusiastically join in.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Children are confident to join in activities and approach staff freely for support or to join in playful conversations. Several enjoy sharing examples of challenges they have put to staff. Their confidence and self-esteem is raised further as staff offer positive and meaningful praise at their achievements. Many demonstrate their increasing ball control skills when clapped and cheered on by their peers and support staff during team relay games. Children behave well in response to staffs appropriate handling. Expectations for behaviour are made clear at the start of the camp. Children appear respectful towards each other and staff, as a result, a friendly atmosphere is evident. Good behaviour and achievements are celebrated through positive reward systems including stickers and certificates. Children are valued and respected as individuals. Staff cater for varying needs as they take account of written information supplied by parents on registration forms. Children with additional needs are well supported ensuring they can equally access all activities. Children explore issues of the wider

world as they take part in fund raising activities to support a plan to set up a 'Kings camp' in Africa.

Staff make themselves available at the beginning and end of the sessions verbally sharing relevant information with parents. Systems for sharing written details of daily events are satisfactory. Parents are well informed about the camps policies and procedures through the parent's guide. Some information is also displayed ensuring children have the relevant equipment and resources for their time at the camp. Reminding parents to bring sun cream and hats during warm weather or items to support the 'themed days'.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are well supported and closely supervised as staff are organised well. Children are cared for and access the activities in age appropriate groups. As a result, their enjoyment and safety is fostered as they mix with others of a similar age and the sporting activities are pitched at an appropriate level. Vetting procedures are in place ensuring staff are suitable to be working with children and appropriately skilled for their roles. Although, the records relating to staff suitability and qualifications are not readily available for inspection. Children's safety is protected as the manager implements secure systems to ensure that children are never left in sole charge of those staff or helpers not fully vetted. Staff are competent in their roles and are aware of their responsibilities to ensure children are well cared for and safe. They implement the camp policies shared during their induction. The majority of the policies and procedures include the required information, ensuring that the welfare of children is generally well safeguarded. The manager keeps a very good overview of staff, supporting and advising as required. He acts as positive role model engaging in conversations and activities with all staff and children. This fosters a welcoming and friendly atmosphere where all staff work well together to ensure children are happy and enjoying the activities. Overall children's needs are met.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting agreed to improve communications with parents with regard to sharing policies, procedures and records of medication. Good systems are in place to keep parents informed of policies and procedures. They can access relevant details through the 'parents guide' an informative website and general information displayed whilst the camp runs. Systems are improved for sharing records of medication, all required details are logged and parents are requested to sign these records at the end of the day safeguarding children. In addition the facility agreed to develop the written behaviour policy to include methods for managing children's inappropriate behaviour. The policy includes satisfactory details and staff are appropriately supported by the camp manager who in addition works closely with parents in these instances.

Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted 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):

- improve record keeping systems ensuring records are available for inspection that demonstrate staff's qualifications, relevant training and that they are appropriately vetted. In addition further extend the child protection policy to include guidance on procedures to be followed in the event of allegations being made against staff
- ensure accident records are always shared with and signed by parents.

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