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St Anselms School (Kings Camps)

Inspection report for early years provision

Better education and care

Unique Reference Number Inspection date Inspector	EY321220 09 August 2006 Anne Walker
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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?

St Anselms School, Kings Camps, is one of a chain of provisions run by the King's Foundation providing school holiday sports activities for children. It operates from part of the St Anselms School in the market town of Bakewell, Derbyshire. A maximum of 80 children may attend the setting at any one time. The camp operates during some school holidays, usually Easter and for a two week period in the summer. It opens each weekday from 08:30 to 17:30. The activities take place in the school sports hall, swimming pool and the adjacent sports fields. There are currently 74 children on roll. The camp employs nine staff, most of whom hold either appropriate child care or sports coaching qualifications.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children bring a packed lunch to the setting and this is stored in an adequate way to protect children's health. Squash and biscuits are provided for children during the 'Xtra Time' sessions if they have eaten their packed meal. Cold water is readily available to children during the day and well-organised routines ensure they have opportunities to access it so that they do not become dehydrated. Children are encouraged to develop an awareness of healthy eating through fun activities, such as 'lunch box inspection', where they earn points for their team according to the healthy elements in their box. This is managed in a positive way and children participate readily, showing good awareness of which foods they should eat lots of and those they should eat in moderation.

There are adequate arrangements in place to safeguard children's health through routine hygiene procedures such as washing their hands after using the toilet. Children are satisfactorily prevented from the risk of cross infection as staff understand their responsibilities regarding sick children. There is at least one member of staff who holds a first aid qualification and has the relevant skills to deal with any accidents. Appropriate systems are in place to record accidents and medication. Parental consent and instructions have been obtained prior to any medication being administered but it is not consistently logged when given to children and what has been administered is only shared verbally with parents. This may impact on a child's health and welfare through lack of clear recording and information sharing.

The children's health is very effectively promoted through the range of sports activities provided. They spend a large part of their day being active and expending their energy and greatly enjoy doing so. Children learn how to pace themselves, taking rests for food and fluids because of the well-structured day. The activities foster a broad range of physical skills and effectively supports children's awareness of the value of being active to their overall well-being.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The children's safety is given good priority. Risk assessments are carried out prior to the camp's commencement with effective systems to ensure all staff understand them. Assessments are updated as necessary during the period that the camp is running. Throughout the day the children play safely because the staff are confident practitioners who understand how to organise groups of children. Their activities are arranged according to children's age, which ensures that younger children are not at risk from older children's play. Sessions are well-structured so that children are productively occupied at all times.

Children benefit from the well-deployed staffing structure where all adults understand

their responsibilities. This ensures that children are well supervised at all times, for example, if additional resources are required the most junior member of staff is sent to fetch them and children under eight are always escorted to the toilet. There are good systems in place to ensure the safe hand over of children at the end of day. The children learn how to keep themselves safe whilst playing, due to the clear rules which are reiterated each morning. During this discussion children demonstrate a good understanding of why these are in place and their willingness to comply with them in order to have a happy and safe day.

Children have access to a good range of sports equipment that is in good order. Across the period of the camp children's skills are developed and their access to other equipment is given as a consequence. Children spend time learning how to use a hockey stick safely. They learn ball control with soft balls and progress to hockey balls. Children take these responsibilities seriously and play safely. This results from the interesting way skills are taught alongside clear, firm guidelines and staff's skill in judging children's readiness for new challenges.

The children's welfare and safety are promoted as staff have a suitable understanding of their responsibilities with regard to child protection procedures. They understand who to share their concerns with, both within the setting and externally.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is outstanding.

Children are eager and enthusiastic participators in everything the camp has to offer. They arrive in the morning with happy smiles and readily join in group games to start the morning. The excellent structure of groups enables children of all ages to get to know new people and make friends. It is exemplary that in short periods of time children establish friendships and support mechanisms within their groups and with their adult carers. This enables them to be confident in the environment and prepared to take up new challenges.

The highly effective programme of activities provides children with structured activities that teach a range of physical skills in a fun and stimulating manner. The children benefit from the highly motivated staff who share their skills and teach in a way that enthuses young children. As a result children's concentration and absorption to their task is terrific. Achievements are celebrated and they show great pleasure through their verbal interchanges with staff as well as body language. These well managed challenges for children fosters their self-esteem well.

During the week there are opportunities for children to express themselves through craft and drama activities, in addition to the sports. Children share their thoughts and ideas through these mediums because they are listened to and adults respond and value their contributions.

The range of activities provide children with excellent opportunities to learn how to work as part of team and listen and respect others ideas. They see this reflected in staff behaviour who are good role models for children.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Information about children's individual needs is collated prior to a child being left. This information is used well to ensure children are appropriately cared for, safe and feel fully included in all the things the setting has to offer. Records are checked prior to birthday cake, provided by a parent, being given to children. This ensures that their health and welfare is not put at risk. Effective strategies are used to ensure that children feel valued and acknowledged. Staff greet children warmly by name as they arrive. Their achievements are acknowledged verbally and through the use of captains armbands allotted each day. Art work is displayed in the sports hall. A sense of belonging is engendered through group songs which they sing with gusto and staff talk with their group of children as they eat alongside them at lunch time.

The children are very well behaved and have good relationships with each other and their carers. They show respect and understanding for the standard of behaviour expected of them and understand why rules are in place. Staff treat children respectfully and children reciprocate with their peers and carers as a result of the example set for them. There are impressive strategies to support young children's confidence in sharing feelings if they are worried or feel threatened amongst a large group of children. This does not rely on a child having to tell an adult but simply to pick up a teddy bear and an adult will come to them.

The good care of children is established through the partnership with parents. A range of information is provided about the service, when they are making a decision about booking a place. The friendly and open welcome by staff enables parents to share information and concerns so that children's needs are met on an ongoing basis.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

The required documentation is in place but is not always used to fully safeguard children's welfare. Children's daily attendance is logged and although systems are in place to record their times of arrival and departure this is not always completed. The person in charge has the necessary skills for his post but the organisation have not notified Ofsted so that additional checks can be undertaken in relation to his new role as manager.

Children's development and welfare are promoted as a result of the suitable strategies in place to ensure that staff caring for children have the necessary skills to care for children appropriately. The staff are organised into well balanced teams and the manager deploys himself effectively to maintain a good overview of the setting throughout the day. The staff understand their responsibilities to children because of the induction programme and the regular meetings held by the manager. These organisational measures ensure children are cared for in a safe environment. The setting meets the needs 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):

- ensure that medication administered to children is recorded at the point it is given to them and that parents sign to acknowledge the entry
- ensure that children's times of arrival and departure are recorded accurately each day and that Ofsted is notified of a new manager in the setting so that the appropriate checks can be undertaken.

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*