

# Loughborough Endowed Schools (King's Camps)

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number EY321226

Inspection date03 August 2006InspectorSusan Andrews

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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?

The Loughborough Endowed Schools (King's Camps) out of school care is one of 32 settings nationwide run by of the King's Foundation Ltd. It operates from the scout hut, sports hall, dining hall and associated facilities within the grounds of Loughborough Endowed School. The setting is registered to care for a maximum of 96 children aged from three years to under eight years at any one time.

There are currently 110 children aged from five years to 14 years on the register. Children attend a variety of sessions. The setting operates for a few days at Easter and for four weeks during the summer holidays. Xtra time sessions run either side of

the main provision from 08:30 until 10:00 and from 16:00 until 17:30. The setting serves the local community and surrounding villages.

Staff have experience of caring for children with learning difficulties and supporting children who speak English as an additional language.

Staff, including relief staff, hold a range of relevant teaching, childcare, play work and sports coaching qualifications.

#### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

## Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in clean and well maintained premises where they enjoy frequent access to fresh air and exercise during outdoor and indoor activities, so helping to maintain their health and well-being.

A full range of corporate policies and procedures are in place and regularly reviewed to underpin health issues and effective procedures ensure staff are familiar with their responsibilities through induction and ongoing supervision of good practices.

Children are expected to bring sun hats and self-administer sun block cream. Children wash their hands regularly before eating, after using the toilet and playing out of doors. Disposable towels are available. This helps children develop an understanding of their own health, personal hygiene needs and minimises the risk of cross-infection.

Staff liaise closely with parents to ensure they have access to information, enabling them to meet children's individual health and dietary needs. The required records are maintained regarding the administration of medication and accidents, however, accident records lack sufficient detail regarding the injury sustained, the first aid applied and any observations or follow up checks that are made. First aid supplies are readily available and staff are trained in paediatric first aid, this enables them to respond positively and act in the children's best interests if they are unwell, injured or have need of emergency treatment.

Healthy eating is promoted as part of the setting's focus on sports activities and healthy lifestyles. Children are encouraged to drink additional fluids during hot weather and after physical activity so that they remain well-hydrated. Children bring their own packed lunches and meal times are managed so that children and staff engage in lively conversation and benefit from the positive social environment.

#### Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children happily settle in the suitable premises that provide ample indoor and outdoor space for them to experience active play or relax. Staff use the available space well

to enable children to move freely between a range of interesting activities in clearly designated areas. Children safely and independently access a range of stimulating resources because they are organised well and are appropriately presented in respect to children's ages and stages of development.

Children of all ages are encouraged to be aware of their own personal safety. For example, when engaging in sports activities such as archery, children follow the guidance and rules of the specialist instructors and enjoy regular access to the outdoor sports areas under careful supervision, so enabling them to stay safe and benefit from fresh air, exercise and develop their skills. Swimming activities always have instructors who hold lifesaving qualifications and follow, 'Managing Health and Safety in the Swimming pool' and 'Safe Supervision for Teaching and Coaching Swimming' guidelines. High staff to child ratios with lead coaches and rookie helpers are maintained, this ensures children are offered good supervision that is appropriate to their choice of activity and stage of development.

A range of risk assessments are conducted and regularly reviewed, so helping to identify and minimise hazards to children. Strategies and systems are in place to ensure the range of equipment meets appropriate safety standards and that they are routinely checked for safety as part of the setting's ongoing health and safety policy and procedures. Staff make good use of an effective child-buddying system that encourages children to be mindful of their own and the safety of others when engaging in routines and sports activities. These procedures enhance children's overall safety.

Fire evacuation procedures have been carefully considered and a fire drill is practised each week. Therefore, all children, coaches and rookie helpers are familiar with the procedures to be followed in the case of a real emergency and their well-being is safeguarded.

Appropriate child protection policies and procedures are in place. Staff receive induction training and are clear about what child abuse and neglect means. They recognise the signs and symptoms and understand their responsibility to follow up any concerns, so ensuring children are protected.

#### Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children across the age range are settled and relaxed within the setting. They are confident in their dealings with adults and develop good relationships with their peers. The qualified and experienced staff and instructors are enthusiastic and enable children to develop their confidence, socialise and to learn new skills. Across the age range, the setting recognises and takes into account children's individual interests and preferences when planning activities. They frequently monitor and evaluate the quality of the provision, letting children's interests, skill base and individual stages of their development influence how activities are presented.

Children have access to arts and crafts and a wide range of sports activities that encourage children to be curious, imaginative, creative and to develop their skills.

These include sports such as archery, gymnastics, trampoline, rounders, hockey, tag-rugby, volleyball and swimming. Planned themed days such as a 'crazy-hair-day' are arranged. Activities take into account children's interests, need to progress, learn new skills and socialise. They explore the world around them and participate individually as well as in small and larger groups. This helps children to reach their full potential, enjoy the activities, relax and have fun.

### Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

A welcoming environment incorporates a range of activities, themes and resources that reflect diversity, so helping children to feel a sense of belonging and begin to learn about the wider community. For example, international sports day, and this years theme of Africa. Children's individual needs, interests and preferences are identified and experienced staff implement effective systems that support the full age range and abilities of children.

Staff are able to make effective use of a range of strategies to help children learn to behave appropriately. For example, consistent positive attention and good role models, help children to value and respect each other, take turns and share equipment appropriately. Staff establish agreed boundaries so that children know what is expected of them and how their behaviour affects others. Children begin to learn to manage their own behaviour and are often encouraged to develop independence and social skills, for example, sharing their experiences and older children readily helping the younger ones.

The setting strives to develop a positive partnership with parents ensuring the required information is gathered at the time a child is registered. Parents receive useful ongoing information about the setting's aims, planned activities and routines, so helping them to understand how children's care is organised. A comprehensive range of well thought out policy statements and procedures are made readily available nationally for parents on the website and in the parent leaflets. These are reviewed and updated on a regular basis, taking on board parents views and comments.

#### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

The qualified and experienced staff team are recruited, selected and receive effective induction through the Sheffield based company's national office. Rookies are young people, aged between 14 years and 17 years, encouraged to develop their leadership and sports coaching skills as they participate in the setting. They work well together to create a stable and secure environment where children are settled, confident, enjoy their sporting activities and have fun. Staff are deployed effectively as each group of children has a lead coach and a rookie helper. These good adult to child ratios enable staff to spend time working closely with children as individuals or in small groups, so helping establish secure relationships.

Staff have a good knowledge of the National Standards and take seriously their responsibility to ensure compliance. They take active steps to extend their awareness of good practice issues, for example, through effective induction and ongoing training opportunities. Staff meet together to plan and revise activities and discuss good practice, for example, in managing children's behaviour so helping them to develop consistency and skills.

Appropriate contact information, personal details and records regarding children and their care are maintained, enabling staff to take account of children's individual needs. Arrangements for the exchange of information with parents is well established, therefore, children benefit from the consistency of care.

Overall, the needs of children who attend are met.

#### Improvements since the last inspection

Not applicable.

## Complaints since the last inspection

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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 records relating to accidents contain sufficient detail regarding the injury sustained, the first aid applied and observations or follow up checks made.

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