

Super Camps @ Heathfield School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY303316
Inspection date	21 February 2007
Inspector	Victoria Vasiliadis
Setting Address	Heathfield School, Beaulieu Drive, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 1NB
Telephone number	020 8868 2346
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Registered person	Super Camps Ltd
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 inadequate - enforcement action. The registered person does not meet the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Super Camps holiday play scheme is run by Super Camps Limited. It opened in 2005 and operates from Heathfield School in Pinner, in the borough of Hillingdon. A maximum of 80 children may attend the camp at any one time. Children over 8 years and up to 13 years may also attend.

The camp is open each weekday from 8.00 to 18.00 during the school holidays. All children share access to a secure outdoor play area.

During the half-term period, there were 12 children under 8 years on roll. The numbers of children on roll varies from day to day.

The setting employs four staff who work directly with the children, none of these staff hold appropriate qualifications for the care or development of children.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is inadequate.

Children are protected from incidents of infection as the setting has in place appropriate policies and procedures. For example, children must not attend the setting if they are unwell with a contagious illness. There are appropriate procedures in place for the administering of medication. However, the procedures for the recording of accidents is not consistent. For example, some accidents have not been recorded and parents not informed when they collect their child. This is a breach of regulation and has a potential impact to the children's health, particularly if parents are not notified of more serious accidents.

The children are provided with drinks throughout the day that are provided by the setting. Children are reminded to take regular drinks, particularly after physical activity. Parents' provide children with packed lunches, the food and drink policy informs them of the need to provide lunches in chilled containers with ice packs, as there are no refrigeration facilities available. Staff are aware of children's individual dietary requirements. However, not all staff are vigilant in ensuring children do not share food and drinks. This poses as a potential hazard to children with severe food allergies.

Children are cared for in an environment that is clean and adequately maintained. There are appropriate written procedures in place dealing with hygiene which are implemented by staff. Children are given some opportunities to understand the importance of personal hygiene as staff explain to children why they must wash their hands before lunch and after using the toilet.

Children enjoy a selection of activities which contribute to their physical health. Each day there are indoor and outdoor activities to help them develop control of their bodies and use their large motor skills. For example, swimming, pedal car racing and team games help improve children's physical development.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is inadequate.

Children's safety and welfare is compromised as a result of a member of staff who is not appropriately vetted having unsupervised access to the children. The level of supervision provided by the setting for example, observing this member of staff from the bottom of a corridor, is not adequate to ensure the safety of the children. However, most of the staff do have a clear understanding of the settings child protection policy and local Safeguarding Children procedures. They are aware of the reporting procedures to follow if abuse is suspected and the necessary documentation is in place to support their practice.

Children are cared for in a suitably organised environment, which is spacious and welcoming to the children. The arrangement of the resources and equipment means that children can move around independently.

Children are generally content in this physically secure environment where most potential hazards have been minimised. For example, regular risk assessments are carried out to ensure the premises and equipment are safe. The setting have also risk assessed specific activities such as swimming and archery. Staff have developed fire evacuation procedures and conduct weekly fire drills. Evacuation procedures are discussed with the children on a daily basis to ensure they

know the procedures to follow in the event of an emergency. This ensures children's safety in the event of a fire.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is satisfactory.

The children are provided with good opportunities to develop their physical skills, this is due to the ethos of the scheme which focuses on children keeping active and engaged in sports activities. Children have regular access to the swimming pool, play football, team games, roller racers and pedal carts, these activities promote children's physical health.

Children are not always sufficiently challenged or engaged in activities. For example, during the bench ball game two children showed their disinterest by running and jumping around the hall, whilst another child lay on the floor. There are times when children clearly state they do not want to play or join in with a game, but their wishes are ignored by staff. The children have limited opportunities to make choice in what they wish to play with, this is due to the fact that activities are pre-planned and no alternatives are provided. However, the interaction between the children and staff is appropriate. For example, staff speak to children in a calm and warm manner and children are praised for their achievements and efforts.

In the main, the majority of children are engaged in activities on offer. The children settle quickly once left by parents and most are keen to join in with the activities on offer. Children particularly enjoy making items from clay such as pizzas and other favourite foods, they also enjoy talking to the staff about what they are making. The children play enthusiastically on the bouncy castle as they laugh and scream in excitement.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are provided with a limited selection of resources that reflect positive images of diversity and the wider community. However, children do have some opportunities to discuss different festivals and participate in art activities such as making flags that represent different countries and reading stories about others cultures. The staff have an adequate understanding of the needs of children with learning difficulties and have clear written policies and procedures in place.

Appropriate procedures are in place to share information with parents. For example, the parents' area includes information about the setting, activities on offer and the schemes written policies and procedures. This contributes significantly to children's well-being. Staff share information verbally with parents on a daily basis at the end of the session.

Children are generally well behaved and polite in response to the expectations of staff. They are encouraged to take turns and share. Staff's management of children's behaviour is appropriate. The children are praised for their work and achievements which promotes their self-confidence.

Organisation

The organisation is inadequate.

The setting has in place almost all of the required legal documents relating to the National Standards. However, the accident records are not consistently maintained once a child has had

an accident. This is a breach of regulation. Children's safety is compromised as a result of a member of staff who is not appropriately vetted having unsupervised access to children, also the level of supervision of this member of staff is not adequate to safeguard children.

None of the staff working directly with children hold a recognised childcare qualification. This significantly impacts on the care of the children, as their individual needs are not always met in relation to the activities offered to them. For example, some children clearly show their disinterests in particular activities, but this is not acted upon by staff.

Minimum staffing ratios are not always maintained, in particular at meal-times where children's health is potentially at risk. This affects the safety and care of the children therefore, the inspection is judged as inadequate. The setting does not meet the needs of the range of children for whom it provides care.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection the setting were judged as inadequate and a number of actions raised. These related to the staff's understanding of hygiene practices to prevent the spread of infection; medication records and the qualifications of the staff caring for the children. Staff now have a clearer understanding of the settings hygiene practices and are maintaining appropriate hygiene procedures. Appropriate medication records are now in place when medication is administered to children. This contributes to the health and welfare of the children. However, the setting has still not addressed the issue relating to the qualifications of the staff. This has again been raised as a result of this inspection.

Complaints since the last inspection

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.

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.

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WHAT MUST BE DONE TO SECURE FUTURE IMPROVEMENT?

The quality and standards of the care

Ofsted is taking **enforcement action** to safeguard the welfare of children.

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