

# Camp Beaumont - Kent College

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY332319
<b>Inspection date</b>	26 July 2007
<b>Inspector</b>	Jackie Liffen
<b>Setting Address</b>	Kent college, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 4AX
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<b>Registered person</b>	CAMP BEAUMONT DAY CAMPS LIMITED
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day 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](http://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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Camp Beaumont Day camp is one of 12 play schemes run by Camp Beaumont Day Camps Limited. It opened in 2006 and operates from 15 class rooms, a large sports hall, dining hall, theatre, dance studio, three small halls and a swimming pool. It is situated in the grounds of Kent College in Pembury, Tunbridge Wells in Kent. A maximum of 100 children may attend the holiday play scheme at any one time. The playscheme is open each weekday from 08:00 to 18:00 for five weeks of the summer holidays. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. Children come from the surrounding area. The play scheme supports children with special educational needs, and also supports children who speak English as an additional language. The play scheme employs 17 members of staff. Half of the staff, including the camp director hold early years qualifications.

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

#### Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are learning to understand simple good health and hygiene practices as they are taken to wash their hands before and after eating and also on returning from playing outside. Staff

monitor the children as they easily use the age appropriate facilities. Children generally play in a clean environment but some of the classroom floors are dirty and are not suitable for children to use for eating or laying on. The setting use a well documented administration of medication procedures which ensure that children are protected from infection. Children who are ill or infectious are excluded from the setting so that germs are not spread. Children bring their own sun cream and hat to wear so that their health needs are met when playing in the sunshine. If younger children need to rest, then they use the comfortable seating in the early years department. Children develop their physical skills exceptionally well because staff plan purposeful activities to help them. For example, they enjoy swimming, tennis, trampolining and playing football. They also take part in regular exercise indoors, for example, when joining in the especially designed fun aerobic sessions.

The camp provide very suitable snacks in the afternoon so that children are well nourished and the youngest children also receive portions of fruit during the morning. Parents generally provide packed lunches which are sometimes stored in hot classrooms, although the group advise parents to use cool bags so that children do not suffer from eating unsuitable food. If necessary, staff also provide a picnic lunch which conforms with children's need to eat healthily. The camp director makes sure that children's special dietary needs are catered for and also ensures that children suffering from allergies do not experience any food containing nuts. Children are learning how different foods affect their bodies on 'healthy living' days. Some children help themselves to a drink of water from a fountain but generally children wait until the end of a session to have a drink.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a child-friendly indoor and outdoor environment which is risk assessed and basically suitable for the purpose. Some written policies and procedures work in practice to protect children, and staff are particularly vigilant in the swimming pool. Children are learning to move around the site in safety as staff encourage them to walk in twos with an adult at the front and the rear. The boundaries of the camp are marked with bunting so that children tend to stay within the confines of the setting; staff also make continual checks to ensure that no children are missing. Younger children use suitable and safe furniture as they play in the school's early years environment, where the equipment is age-appropriate, safe and well-maintained.

The camp director is responsible for helping children to learn to avoid accidents and she assesses and appraises the facility on a daily basis. Children enjoy a number of sports and some, such as swimming and archery which have particular risk assessments attached to them. However, in some circumstances children are not helped to avoid potential harmful situations because there are a number of wires hanging from electrical equipment, both in the early years setting and the corridor. Children are unable to hurt themselves on medicines or first aid equipment because these are stored in the office out of reach. They are learning how to keep themselves safe as they practise regular fire drills. Staff have a basic knowledge of child protection procedures and children's welfare is safeguarded as most visitors are asked to sign in and out. However, sometimes adults, unconnected with the camp, enter and leave the setting at will, and staff occasionally forget to keep a check on everyone working near children.

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

The provision is good.

Most children quickly settle and become happy in the setting as they join their groups which are arranged according to age. Although all children over five are expected to join in prescribed activities, such as swimming, archery, football and other ball games, they also become involved in a further range of spontaneous experiences which are arranged according to children's interests and the weather conditions. Children are beginning to relate to their peer group and sometimes form friendships. They tend to respond well to adults who are interested in what they do and say. For example, a child shows a member of staff a picture of an elephant and this generates a group discussion about Africa. Children communicate well and are motivated by most of the staff who have a great deal of enthusiasm and energy. They concentrate and sit quietly when watching preparations for the end of week show. Younger children make choices when they decide what to play with from the range of age-appropriate toys such as duplo, a pretend cooker, books, cars and musical instruments. Children listen and respond with enjoyment and attention to stories, songs and rhymes; they also make up their own stories. Children express their thoughts and needs clearly as they ask questions and join in group activities.

## **Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is satisfactory.

Some children experience equal opportunities issues as they wait to join in team games as unfortunately the camp cannot cater for children with disabilities, nor do they provide sufficient resources for children to gain a positive sense of themselves. For example, when children are drawing and colouring sometimes there are no skin-toned crayons available for them to use. However, some children with learning difficulties are helped by staff who improve on their knowledge and understanding by reading relevant literature or looking up subjects on the internet. Some children gain in self esteem because staff make an effort to praise them as often as possible. Staff use various methods of behaviour management and are very encouraging so that children learn to work harmoniously together. For example, some children are given stickers to recognise their achievements and all of them receive a certificate at the end of the week to congratulate them for their efforts. Parents complete registration forms containing all information needed to ensure children's continuity of care, however, they tend not to be involved within the setting and are unsure of the policies and procedures. Staff try to feed back to parents and carers at the end of each session so that each child is satisfied and happy with the outcome.

## **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are generally happy in the setting because they are cared for by staff with a good enough understanding of child development. Children are adequately cared for because the camp director holds a level three childcare and has sufficient knowledge and ability to manage the camp well. She monitors children's welfare so that the rest of the staff conform to the setting's policies and procedures. Staff have regard to children's health and welfare although only three adults hold an appropriate first aid qualification. Children's well-being is generally maintained although sometimes the minimum staffing ratios that the group adhere to are insufficient, especially when a child has an accident away from the building and staff do not easily contact a first aider. The provider supports children's care, learning and play by

implementing the regulations and keeping suitable records giving details of all children and the times that they are present at the setting. The competent camp director is aware of how to use the record keeping systems in order to meet children's needs.

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

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

Since registration 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.

## **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 satisfactory. 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 cleanliness in areas where children eat snacks
- assess the risks to children in relation to trailing wires and unrecognised adults, and take action to minimise these
- ensure provision is sufficient to enable children to gain a positive image of themselves
- improve communication arrangements so that at least two members of staff are working with each group of children at all times.

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)