

Camp Beaumont Playscheme

Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | 138261 |
| Inspection date | 20 August 2007 |
| Inspector | Linda Close |
| Setting Address | Southside Common, London, SW19 4TT |
| Telephone number | 020 8947 7041 |
| E-mail | |
| Registered person | Britannia Learning & Leisure Ltd, TA Camp Beaumont |
| 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?

Camp Beaumont Playscheme was registered in 1993 and is one of a group of holiday playschemes run by Britannia Learning and Leisure Ltd. It operates from the Kings College school site which is located close to Wimbledon Common. The local authority is Merton. The scheme primarily provides sporting activities for children although it does include a range of other activities and entertainment for children. These include arts and crafts, drama sessions and opportunities to engage in off campus activities such as horse riding. Many of the children attending the playscheme live locally, although some children are visiting the area with their families from overseas. There is a self contained nursery and outdoor play area set aside for children aged three to four years.

There were 215 children attending at the time of the inspection aged from three to 15 years and 108 of these children are under eight years old. Children attend a variety of sessions. The group runs from Monday to Friday inclusive during most weeks of the Easter and summer school holidays. Core hours for the group are from 08:30 until 17:30 and an additional 30 minute period of care before and after the core hours is available to parents if required. There are 38 members of staff working with the children at the time of this inspection. The setting is a member of the British Association of Holiday Activities and staff qualifications meet the requirements of this body.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is satisfactory.

Children do not attend the setting if they are unwell which prevents the unnecessary spread of infection appropriately. They are given medication only if it is provided by their parents with written instructions and records are kept accordingly. Children learn about good personal hygiene from the staff who often remind them to wash their hands, especially before eating. Children are actively encouraged to take a drink of fresh water throughout the day to maintain hydration. Children can be cared for appropriately if they have an allergic reaction, or have an accident at the setting, and parents are kept informed. However, the two first aiders with training in paediatric care are often busy in the swimming pool building and in this large school there is some risk that valuable time will be taken up bringing them to other parts of the site. Four other trained first aiders are on site and all can offer their assistance but they have not attended courses specifically for the care of children.

Most children bring packed lunch, drinks and snacks from home and staff encourage them to eat healthy foods. A selection of savoury sandwiches, fresh fruit and other snack foods are made available for children if their parents prefer. Parents know in advance that lunch packs from home are not stored in a fridge. Food provided by Camp Beaumont is ordered in daily and refrigerated to keep it in good condition. Staff are vigilant at meal times and they ensure that children do not share foods and that none of their lunch packs contain nuts. This contributes to the continuing good health of children who have allergies.

The group is predominantly a sports activity camp although other activities are offered. Children in all age groups enjoy healthy exercise every day both indoors and outside. Well planned time tables ensure that vigorous games are enjoyed every day. Children were observed swimming and playing in the indoor pool, playing lively group games such as Stick in the Mud and taking an active part in obstacle course activities.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The children are welcomed into a suitable school building which provides ample space and facilities for all of their planned activities. The dining hall and classrooms used by the various groups are clean and spacious. Toilet facilities are cleaned and checked daily to ensure they are pleasant for the children to use. The security of this large site has been identified as a major safety issue by the manager and her staff and together they have devised good routines to ensure that children are safe in the setting. All children wear name badges and the staff wear distinctive clothing so that all can be easily identified. In addition the Kings College School site staff wear identification badges and special clothing so they too can be easily identified. All visitors to the site are immediately challenged and staff ensure that the various groups of children are well supervised at all times to keep them safe.

A full risk assessment of the site and buildings is conducted at the beginning of the play scheme to promote children's safety. Children's resources are checked daily for good condition and cleanliness. The lead first aider reviews the accident records weekly to check if the children are involved in any recurring accidents that can be avoided. Staff supervising the swimming activities assess risks to children before they are permitted to enter the water. Staff are vigilant during swimming sessions. Some observe from the pool side and others swim with the children to show

them good techniques and to promote their safety. Fire evacuation routines are practised every week so that all children and staff know what to do and where to assemble.

Children are safeguarded in relation to child protection issues because the manager trains the staff before the beginning of the play scheme. Staff are made aware of the signs to note that can indicate ill-treatment and they know they must share concerns with the manager without delay.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children are offered a wide range of sporting activities every day at Camp Beaumont Playscheme. They take part in an interesting range of games planned with care by a member of staff who take specific responsibility for time tabling. This member of staff devises a plan for wet weather and a separate plan for dry weather so that children are engaged in worthwhile activities every day. Children in each age group have specific activities chosen to meet their different needs and abilities and they can make choices.

The very youngest children enjoy their free play with resources which include construction toys, a ball pool, dressing up clothes and puzzles. They are happy to listen to stories and to sit with their new friends for singing and discussions. These children have a separate outdoor play area with suitable resources. The children who are five years old happily take part in games on the field. They concentrate hard on dribbling balls along the ground with croquet mallets and they show growing skills of ball control and hand/eye co-ordination. The two groups for six and seven year olds come together for swimming activities in the indoor pool. The children soon learn to accept basic rules for safety such as not running on the poolside and staying in the shallow end of the pool if they are not confident in the water. Many of the children in these two groups are competent swimmers and they jump or dive into the deeper end of the pool with confidence. Other planned activities enjoyed by the children include art and craft, games in the various base rooms, parachute games, aerobics, dance and drama.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is good.

Equality of opportunity is promoted in the setting. Staff and children represent a wide range of ethnic groups and cultures and fairness in sports and play is nurtured for all who attend. The setting accepts children of all abilities and a small number of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities attend from time to time. However, some activities may be unsuitable for children with mobility problems without individual support, although this can be arranged by parents if they wish.

Children's behaviour is managed successfully by the staff. Staff are firm but kind and the children are pleasantly infected by their enthusiasm and energy. Icebreaker activities take place to introduce the children to each other at the beginning of each week. At this time the rules of the group are shared with the children who benefit from knowing what is expected of them. Time out is used as a sanction if children misbehave but children are not left unattended at any time. Staff are positive in their approach. They encourage the children to join in all sports and play fairly. The children are polite, happy and well behaved.

Staff have established a sound working relationship with parents and carers. They are happy to show parents and carers around the site so that they can observe and decide if the activities

will suit their children's needs. Information about children's health, allergies and dietary needs are shared at registration so that staff can provide continuity of care. Staff keep parents fully informed about accidents. Days and times of attendance are adjusted to meet the needs of the families and this includes care before and after sessions for parents who are at work.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Staff are checked for their suitability to work with children at the time of their employment. The manager keeps comprehensive staff records on site and ready for inspection at any time. Resources and the accommodation used by the children are checked daily to ensure children's safety and wellbeing. The planning and organisation of groups is effective. The manager keeps a careful record of the numbers of children attending in each age group and the numbers of staff allocated to each group. She ensures that the ratio of staff to children is correct at all times. Her records are clearly laid out which means that she can see at a glance where supernumerary staff can be moved to other groups if there is a need. Sufficient members of staff hold appropriate qualifications to enable the setting to register with the British Association of Holiday Activities (BAHA). All staff who supervise the more specialised activities such as archery and Quad bike riding have attended suitable training to enable them to run the groups safely. Careful planning ensures that there are always two lifeguards in attendance at swimming sessions. However, they are the only two of the six first aiders on the staff who are trained in paediatric care. All documents and records are in place according to regulation which helps the staff to run the setting efficiently. The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Improvements since the last inspection

Six recommendations for improvement were made at the time of the last inspection. Staff agreed to develop the organisation of lunch time to promote good hygiene practice. Suitable systems are now in place at lunch time which contributes to children's good health. Staff agreed to add the contact details for the regulator to the complaints procedure. The appropriate details are now in place which enables parents to contact the regulator if required. Staff agreed to improve fire safety records. The fire safety records are now appropriate which contributes to the safety of the children. Staff agreed to ensure that effective procedures are in place for checking staff suitability and qualifications to work with children. Effective procedures are now in place to check staff suitability and membership of the British Association of Holiday Activities demonstrates that staff qualifications are appropriate.

Staff were asked to raise their awareness of processes for administering medication, to seek written permission for the administration of medication and to seek parental permission for medical advice or treatment for the children in an emergency. Parents now give their written permission for staff to take appropriate action for their children if they are involved in an accident. Staff are aware of medication procedures and they gain written permission from parents before medication is given to children. Staff were asked to make parents aware of the non-use of safety helmets for roller skating activities. This information is not necessary at this time because roller skating activities are not offered at the camp this year.

Complaints since the last inspection

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required either the provider or Ofsted to take any action 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 record may contain complaints other than complaints 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 there are sufficient first aiders present, who are trained in paediatric care, to administer first aid to children on all parts of the site

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