

Super Camps @ West Hill Park School

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique Reference Number	EY348022
Inspection date	13 August 2007
Inspector	Judith Reed
Setting Address	West Hill Park School, St Margaret's Lane, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 4BS
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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 satisfactory. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Super Camps at West Hill School registered in 2007. It is a multi activity day camp facility and operates from West Hill Park School in Titchfield, Hampshire. The scheme is one of many, which are organised by Super Camps Limited. The scheme operates most school holidays and is open Monday to Friday from 08.00 until 18.00. Facilities used by Super Camps consist of a sports hall, three classrooms, art rooms, swimming pool, riding school, tennis courts, playing fields, Astro-turf area, toilets, changing Rooms and adventure playgrounds.

The scheme caters for children aged three to 13 and is registered for a maximum of 80 children, aged three to under eight years at any one time. Daily attendance numbers vary.

Super Camps employ four members of staff, all of whom hold appropriate qualifications. Additional specialist staff are employed as necessary.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are encouraged to help themselves to drinks throughout the day. They refill their own water bottles to carry to activities and ensure they remain hydrated. Children have a snack from their lunch boxes during the morning break. They are able to eat their packed lunches on the playing field and staff ensure they sit in the shade. Staff also ensure younger children finish their lunch before beginning to play. Many children take the opportunity to sit and rest, chatting with each other and staff. It is made clear to parents that lunches cannot be refrigerated and appropriate foods should be supplied. Staff remind children that they should not share or exchange food due to dietary requirements.

Children are healthy as staff are aware of children's allergies and health requirements. They carry a list with them at all times with contact information appropriate to their group of children. Children are reminded to reapply sun cream before going outside. Those children without their own cream have some provided by staff. Parents sign permission for children to use sun cream and they are made aware of the routine of signing to give permission for emergency medical treatment when children are signed in each day. A member of staff who is trained in first aid is present every day. Suitable accident records are completed and signed by parents as necessary. Medication administration record forms are available, although the leader makes it clear to parents that children who are unwell should not attend the scheme. A sick child policy is in place.

Children take part in many physical activities which enhance their health and wellbeing. They relish the opportunity to use the swimming pool, the extensive playing fields and adventure play area. A large sports hall is available for indoor activities and ball games. Older children use go-karts, and an additional horse riding activity is available for some children.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Children use part of a private school site with extensive facilities. A well equipped sports hall is used as a base and for many activities. Children also use some classrooms, the swimming pool, tennis courts, Astro-turf area, adventure play area, spacious playing fields and the riding school. All areas are within fenced school grounds and staff are vigilant regarding children's safety. Children are protected as the school grounds have many locked gates and classroom doors are kept locked. A full risk assessment is completed and additional assessment of risks on this particular site, as well as particular activities, are also available. Frequent fire evacuation practice is held and children are reminded about evacuation procedures during daily group registration. Staff count the children within their group constantly when moving around the site and carry out regular registrations throughout the day. Some areas are also used by another group using the site at the same time and complications occur when a few other children join the group on the adventure play equipment or on the playing field. The staff team ensure they know the children from their own group to keep them safe at all times.

Children use a large amount of sports equipment as well as arts and crafts materials. Staff ensure all equipment is suitable and safe for those children attending the setting. Children have the opportunity to choose their own activity at the beginning and end of the day.

Children are safeguarded by the knowledgeable staff team. All staff are aware of child protection procedures and would report issues to the site leader. Staff are aware of their professional responsibilities regarding safeguarding children.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children have fun and are well occupied with a busy timetable of activities. At the beginning of the day children gather in the sports hall and choose their own activities from a choice of drawing and colouring or ball skills activities. Some children bring their own books to read during quiet moments and break times. Many children immediately link up with a familiar member of staff to talk to or play near to them. A full morning registration is held at approximately 9.20, when children are reminded about safety guidelines and divided into their groups by age. All the children are introduced to the staff team by name. Each group leader takes their group into an area of the hall for another registration and a quick introduction around the group.

The younger children have a swimming session for the first part of the morning. Children walk with staff to the swimming pool and change in the male or female changing rooms. The qualified lifeguard, swimming group leader ensures children walk in the pool area. All children are tested with a simple swimming test and arm bands are provided for those who need them. Children are made aware of keeping in the shallow end of the pool depicted by two blue cones. Children enjoy the freedom of playing their own games and throwing balls to one another in the pool. They use floats and water toys to practise their swimming skills and become more confident in the water. A group of four children, who are able swimmers, are taken to the deeper water to take turns jumping into the pool. The staff ensure children's safety by constantly watching the children and setting clear guidelines.

After a drink and snack break children move to a classroom for clay modelling activities. A staff member entertains children by pretending to be a teddy bear. Children are invited to make something from under the sea. They draw a picture of their proposed model first and then clay is distributed. Children are praised and encouraged in their work. Staff move around the group handing out tools and paints to decorate the models. Children create imaginative models from clay. Some make sharks, fish or crabs and one creates a model of a boat wreck. When children have finished their models they move to the entrance hall of the classroom for a few relaxing games before lunch. Staff are very aware of the younger children being tired after their swim.

Children use the adventure play area after they have eaten their lunch. They enjoy taking turns on the swings and pushing one another or setting up their own ball games.

After an afternoon registration in the smaller groups, children watch a play which has been created by some of the other children throughout the week. The play is a magical mystery story with a witch, an evil school master and time travel. The rest of the children watch enthralled and interested.

The groups separate once again with older children having an opportunity to use the go-karts and younger children having story time in a classroom. Later in the afternoon all the children join together for Friday Fun-time, when children choose to have a water fight and slide on the large field. During most of the day the different age groups of children are enjoying separate activities in different areas of the site. Older children have more challenging physical activities appropriate to their ages including lacrosse, tennis and Frisbee.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Children generally behave well. They understand the rules of the setting and listen carefully to instructions. Staff use positive behaviour management strategies and children are praised and encouraged throughout their activities. Staff make positive remarks about children's work when they take part in creative clay activities saying 'That's really good,' and 'Good work and good sharing boys!' A behaviour management policy is in place and staff discuss children's behaviour with parents when necessary. Children are reminded about safety when kicking footballs in a large group and discreetly asked to tone down their language while attending the setting.

Children benefit from the friendly relationship between the staff and parents. Staff remind parents to sign the children in each day and a notice clearly tells parents they are signing to agree to emergency medical treatment. Parents note the times of arrival and departure on the signing in sheet. Staff chat informally to parents while welcoming their children into the setting. Notices displayed in the entrance include the Certificate of Registration and contact information for Ofsted. A folder of policies and procedures is available if required and this includes a complaints policy. A complaints record is not available to parents.

Children are treated as individuals and staff have some understanding of equal opportunities. All children are welcomed into the setting. Staff get to know children quickly and build positive relationships with the children. An equal opportunities policy is in place.

Children with disabilities and/or learning difficulties are welcomed into the setting. Staff ensure all children are able to join in the activities.

Organisation

The organisation is satisfactory.

Children are protected as staff are experienced and trained to work for Super Camps. All staff also receive handbooks of information according to their role. These handbooks link into the National Standards. Staff are suitably checked by Super Camps head office. The leader has a good overview of the setting and is aware of where children are and what activities are occurring at all times. He ensures suitably qualified staff oversee activities such as swimming and horse riding. The staff team work well together.

Children move around in their groups, taking part in many different sports and art activities. Children are registered into the setting by their parents and times of arrival and departure are noted. A regular register is taken when children move around the setting and staff perform frequent head counts. Staff get to know the children quickly and build good relationships with them. Overall the provision meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides.

Documentation is not stored in a confidential manner. The leader is not able to spend time organising paperwork and records as he is fully occupied with the children. Some paperwork is stored under the table in the entrance and other records such as past medication permission forms, are not available when required. The complaints record is not available.

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):

- keep children's personal documentation confidential at all times
- provide a complaints record for parents to see on request
- ensure all records of medication administered are available

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