

Super Camps @ Wimbledon High School

Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique Reference Number | EY348043 |
| Inspection date | 16 August 2007 |
| Inspector | Lindsay Ann Farenden |
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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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Super Camps @ Wimbledon High School is a multi activity day camp for children. It opened in 2007 and operates from a large and a small sports hall and two art and craft classrooms within the school. Children have access to outside play areas within the school grounds and have supervised access to a swimming pool and a dining area. A maximum of 80 children may attend at any one time. Children from the aged of four years to under 13 years of age attend the activity camp. There are currently 65 children on roll of whom 30 are aged under eight years. The activity day camp runs during the school holidays. There are nine staff employed. Five staff including the manager are qualified teachers, others are experienced in working with children and others have specific skills in drama and swimming activities.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

Children are cared for in a clean environment where appropriate cleaning routines ensure the risk of cross infection is minimised. Good hygiene practice is promoted as staff ensure children wash their hands before meals and after using the toilets. Children receive suitable attention

if there is an accident, as three staff hold a first aid certificate and the first aid box is well stocked. The sharing of the accident record with the parents enables them to watch for any further symptoms which may develop. Parental consents are obtained for staff to administer medication and seek emergency medical treatment. Children who are infectious do not attend, thus preventing the spread of contagious illnesses.

Children bring in their own packed lunches and parents are encouraged to provide healthy foods with ice packs to ensure perishable items are kept fresh. Children enjoy their lunch time in the canteen socialising with their friends. Staff pay particular attention to children who have food allergies and are able to take decisive action using an epipen if necessary. Staff encourage children to have regular drinks throughout the day, particularly after physical exercise to ensure they remain hydrated.

Children have a wealth of opportunities to develop their physical skills, through a wide range of well planned sport activities inside the halls and outside areas. Children also use the swimming pool.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is satisfactory.

Children use appropriate facilities in the school, such as halls and two classrooms, which ensure they have plenty space for sports games and activities. Risk assessments have taken place to identify potential hazards to children. Daily checks are also done by staff to ensure the premises are suitable for the children before they arrive. Good procedures are in place whilst children use the swimming pool, which includes a lifeguard present at all times. Staff supervise children very well during the activities and when they move between the different buildings, to ensure their well-being. They also take the register on a regular basis to ensure all children are present. However, children's safety is not fully protected as the nearest entrance gate to the premises is not kept closed at all times and the water in one of the cloakrooms is extremely hot.

Children access a good range of sports equipment which is suitable for children's ages and stages of development. Staff ensure there are sufficient art materials for when children undertake these activities.

Children have a good understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of fire because they are practised regularly and explained to them by staff on a daily basis.

Children are protected because staff attend training on child protection before the play scheme runs and have an understanding of the procedures to follow to safeguard children's welfare.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is good.

Children arrive happily and quickly settle into the free play activities, such as playing balls and frisbee, and using hoops and drawing materials. Children separate into groups for their ages for the wide range of planned activities, which they are very eager to participate in. These include mini tennis, football, dodge ball, rounders and basket ball. Staff demonstrate how to use the equipment, such as holding tennis racquets appropriately and how to ride the roller bikes and quad karts. As a result children have a many opportunities to learn different skills which are adapted to their levels of development.

Children have great fun playing parachute games. Children very much enjoyed making kites, with clear directions from staff on how to do this. They are then encouraged to proudly show the work they have done on them with each other. Children's creativity is encouraged through a good range of activities, such as clay modelling, painting, playing musical instruments and drama. At the end of the week the drama group put on a show for the parents and other children attending the scheme. Face painting and swimming are particularly popular with the children.

Children learn to play in teams and wait patiently for their turn to use some of the equipment. They enjoy the stimulating, fun and challenging environment and their self esteem is boosted as they receive certificates and stickers for trying hard, achievements and being helpful.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is satisfactory.

Staff welcome parents in a very warm and friendly manner when they bring and collect their children to and from the super camp. The manager and the key worker are happy to exchange any information parents require about their child's day. A prospectus and internet information informs parents about the facilities super camps offer children. Good information is displayed for parents, which includes the activities taking place for the children of different age groups and information on how to make a complaint. Staff encourage parents to record their views in the comments book, which aids them to monitor the service provided. The policies and procedures are kept on the entrance table, so accessible for parents to view.

Children are encouraged to join in all games and activities regardless of gender. However, they have no access to resources and activities which promote their awareness of diversity. Staff provide an inclusive environment for children with learning difficulties and disabilities. They take part in all the activities and games, which are often modified so they can be fully included and children's individual support workers are welcome.

Children learn about being caring to others as they raise money for a charity for sick children in Africa by throwing wet sponges at staff once a week.

Children behave very well and are kept busy which prevents any behaviour difficulties arising. They are clear about the rules of the setting through clear boundaries set by staff. Children are actively encouraged in activities and games as staff make a point of praising children for their efforts and achievements. Staff provide good role models for the children, as they treat them with respect and do not raise their voices whilst caring for them.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

Children play in a friendly, very well managed and organised setting. Staff are effectively deployed as they are made aware of the activities and sports sessions they will be organising, which have been planned in advance of the summer camp opening. They show a good understanding of their role of supporting children throughout each activity or sports session.

Good staffing ratios are consistently maintained and strategies are in place to cover staff's absence. Most staff are qualified teachers, have child care experience or are specialists in skills, such as drama and swimming (including lifeguard qualifications). The registration system clearly shows the numbers of children attending under eight years old. Staff are very careful to ensure the care of the children over eight years does not affect the younger children. For example,

they do activities in groups of their own age group and a safety curtain in the main hall separates the younger and older children during free play times.

Staff undergo robust recruitment procedures and checking systems to ensure their suitability to work with children. Staff attend super camps training before the play scheme starts, which ensures they are aware of how to provide the activities and are provided with a handbook which includes the policies and procedures. The weekly staff meetings and appraisal system ensures that children's needs are met and the service is continually evaluated, whilst the play scheme is running.

The policies and procedures are used to promote the safety and care of the children. All legally required documentation which contributes to children's health and well-being is in place. The setting meets the needs of the 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 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 entrance gate is kept shut at all times whilst children are present and the hot water is maintained at a suitable temperature for hand washing
- provide children with an appropriate range of activities that promote race, culture and disability

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