

# Kidscamp

Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY355798
<b>Inspection date</b>	04 August 2008
<b>Inspector</b>	Stephanie Graves

<b>Setting Address</b>	Dartford & Gravesham Parents Consortium, Allsworth Court, 38-40 St. Davids Road, SWANLEY, Kent, BR8 7RJ
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<b>Registered person</b>	The Parents Consortium
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	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 good. The registered person meets the National Standards for under 8s day care and childminding.

### WHAT SORT OF SETTING IS IT?

Kidscamp is a service provided by the Parents Consortium and is a registered charity. The provider registered with Ofsted in 2007. The provision operates from a purpose built, recently renovated building in Hextable in Kent. A maximum of 22 children aged five to eight years may attend the setting at any one time and the group also provides a service for children up to the age of 17. The provision is open each weekday during school holidays from 09.30 to 17.00. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area.

There are currently 23 children aged from five to under eight years on roll. Children come from a wide catchment area. The group currently supports children with profound/severe physical, learning or sensory impairment.

The setting employs 61 members of staff in total. Of those working with children under eight years, over half hold appropriate qualifications and attend regular short courses.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is good.

Children's health needs are addressed well by staff who gather clear information about their personal requirements. For example, all children have individual care plans containing information about their current medical health and any medication they receive. Written parental consent is gained for seeking emergency treatment or advice and to administer medication. Only appropriately trained staff are permitted to administer medicines and treatment, which helps to ensure children's specific needs are addressed appropriately. Effective hygiene procedures contribute towards children's good health. For instance, staff use antibacterial agents on surfaces, equipment and resources. Children are encouraged to wash their hands at the appropriate times and dry them with paper towels. Those with infectious conditions do not attend the setting. These procedures all help to reduce the spread of infection.

Children have ongoing opportunities to take part in various physical activities. For instance, some enjoy running around playing games while others play on the swings, tricycles and trampoline in the outdoor area. They enjoy going on regular outings, which include swimming trips. They can also rest in quieter surroundings, which helps to promote their sense of relaxation. Children have access to drinks and fresh fruit throughout the day. Lunches are provided from home and children eat together with staff, which makes it a social experience. Children benefit from clear agreements in place with parents and carers that ensure their dietary needs are addressed appropriately.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children's safety is considered exceptionally well by the group. For example, clear attention is paid to security within the building and the garden. Children are very closely supervised at all times with at least one-to-one support. Clear risk assessments, and details of any necessary action taken, help to ensure their safety at all times. Children have plenty of unobstructed space to move around and play and low level amenities promote inclusion and safe accessibility to all. Soft surfacing around large play equipment and the soft play room allows children to explore and develop new skills safely. The group ensures children attending swimming activities are supervised by their own qualified lifeguard and good consideration is given when taking children on outings. This includes obtaining written information from parents/carers about how to keep children safe according to their individual needs. Children are developing a very good awareness of personal safety. For example, the emergency evacuation procedure is practised every week that the group operates and staff remind children about personal safety when using outdoor equipment and resources. This enhances their understanding of how to keep themselves and others safe.

Children's welfare is well promoted because staff have an up-to-date understanding of the procedures necessary to safeguard them at all times. Recent training has been attended and staff understand the signs and symptoms of abuse and know what to do in the event of a concern. All relevant information is close to hand along with stringent procedures for safeguarding all children at all times. This helps to ensure children's welfare remains the group's priority.

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

The provision is outstanding.

Children are very settled and receive excellent one-to-one support within the setting. They form warm relationships with staff who quickly get to know them and spend quality time playing and talking with them. This helps children feel comfortable and confident when making choices about what they wish to take part in. Children can move around and select their chosen activities, which are accessible to all. Some enjoy quiet time by themselves, or playing ball with an adult while others enjoy moving between the excellent range of stimulating activities and experiences. They enjoy the thrills of the sensory garden, where they can explore interactive resources, which promote use of all the senses. For instance, they can be heard laughing with delight as they trigger the timber construct of a dragon to roar then run away as a member of staff chases them, pretending to be a dragon. They discover the features of an interactive pirate's cove and ship and explore the sound effects of a bright and stimulating wall mural and musical instruments.

Staff clearly understand the developing needs of the children. Their care plans include children's likes and dislikes, which gives staff an excellent starting point to provide for their individual interests. Children can, therefore, play meaningfully. For instance during role play, some dress up as pirates with staff to act out various scenarios while others engage in superhero play, which is also skilfully supported by staff. They can be heard speaking to one another through 'talkitubes' which help to promote their language and communication skills, and they enjoy the sensory studio and soft play area. Here they can relax or expend energy in a safe environment. They can explore sensory lighting, a bubble tube and a touch colour panel board where sounds reflect changes in the lighting. They thoroughly enjoy accessing the soft play area and 'ball shower' where they feed the balls into a suction tube, wait, and shriek with delight as these are released back into the ball pool. They can access an infinity tunnel with stimulating switches, lights and other features that capture their interest and participation.

Overall the setting plans and provides an excellent range of experiences, which promote children's intellectual, physical, social and emotional needs.

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

The provision is good.

Children are warmly welcomed into the setting by their key workers and are cared for according to their individual needs. The children attending have profound physical, learning or sensory impairments and are very well cared for by attentive staff, who work closely with a range of other agencies to support their needs. All children share equal access to the exciting and stimulating opportunities provided and they are actively encouraged to be independent wherever possible. Toys, resources and experiences promote positive images of diversity and are fully suited to the different needs of the children attending. Children are involved in decision making within the provision. For example, verbal communication is complimented by sign language and the use of picture symbols, which helps to ensure that all children have a voice and can express themselves within the setting. This also enables them to understand how to seek support where necessary. Staff are good role models and manage behaviour in a way that promotes their welfare and development. They fully understand that some behaviour may be attributed to a child's physical or learning impairment and try to pre-empt unwanted behaviours wherever possible. Staff are good role models, teach children right from wrong and can be heard regularly praising them for their achievements and good behaviour. This promotes children's confidence and self esteem.

Children benefit from consistency of care because staff and parents work very closely together to ensure their individual needs are addressed. The provider takes positive steps to ensure that parents are kept well informed about all relevant policies and procedures, although the complaints procedure has not been updated to current requirements. Nevertheless, the group offers very effective family support and a clear two-way flow of information ensures children's specific needs are fully understood and addressed.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is good.

Children are comfortable and settled within a very well organised environment. They feel secure and at ease with the adults who care for them and can access an excellent range of stimulating play opportunities. Effective systems are in place to ensure the adults working with the children are suitable and their ongoing suitability is monitored effectively. Although some improvement is required concerning the complaints procedure, all the necessary records are in place and shared with parents. The certificate of registration is clearly displayed and daily attendance records show clear arrival and departure times for children, staff and visitors. Children's welfare, care and learning are promoted by the policies and procedures, as well as the extensive information shared between the group and parents/carers. The provider is committed to the ongoing improvement of the provision in partnership with other agencies, parents and carers and providing exciting play and learning opportunities for the children. The setting 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 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 the complaints procedure contains all the required information and is made available to parents.

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)