

# CamPlay

Inspection report for early years provision

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**Unique reference number**

EY337359

**Inspection date**

10/08/2009

**Inspector**

Susan Lewis

**Setting address**

Meadowgate School, Meadowgate Lane, Wisbech,  
Cambridgeshire, PE13 2JH

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**Type of setting**

Childcare on non-domestic premises

## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

There were no children on roll when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no children on roll, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states if the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

## Description of the setting

CamPlay is one of five provisions managed by Cambridgeshire County Council. It opened in 2006 and operates from Meadowgate School in Wisbech, offering a holiday playscheme for children with moderate to severe physical and learning difficulties and/or disabilities. It works in partnership with the local authority early years department. The setting is currently on the Early Years Register and both parts of the compulsory and voluntary Childcare Register. It is registered to admit children from three years to 19 years but will not admit children aged five years and under in future.

A maximum of 20 children may attend the playscheme at any one time. The playscheme is open from 10am to 4pm for three weeks during the school summer holidays and some additional days during other school holidays. All children have access to an enclosed outdoor play area. There are currently 33 children aged from six to 17 years on roll. None of the children on roll are in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The playscheme employs 23 staff. Of these, 17 hold suitable qualifications. Staff also have a range of qualifications, experience and short course and induction training in relation to managing and providing effectively for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. Access for children and adults with disabilities is particularly strong because of the use of a specialist school, the levels of staffing and the ways in which the setting liaises with families and other providers. The setting has access to appropriate resources to enable it to support children for whom English is an additional language.

## Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Staff at the setting demonstrate a suitable knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They have had a range of appropriate training in addition to their formal qualifications that ensures they understand the needs of young children with the range of learning difficulties that are admitted. A development plan is in place supported by a local authority Early Years Quality Assurance scheme that focuses well on Every Child Matters and outcomes. The majority of required policies and procedures have been updated since the last inspection. All the required checks on the suitability of staff to look after and work with children are made and recorded appropriately. These records are kept at the head office but are readily available. Careful induction of staff and a welcome pack ensures that they know and understand child protection procedures and a designated lead child protection officer is now identified and present on site at all times, as recommended at the last inspection. Daily briefings and a briefing board keep staff well informed as to pupils' welfare and health needs as well as to activity arrangements.

All parts of the premises used for childcare are safe, secure and suitable for purpose and generally there are thorough risk assessments in place relating to possible risks and hazards children might be exposed to in these and for outings. However, occasionally a member of staff does not make it clear enough what the risk is and gives insufficient detail as to the actions that must be taken to minimise

risk. Children are safe however because of the high staff numbers plus their vigilance secures this and their well being. Staff have appropriate first aid training and qualifications and there are meticulous procedures and records in place for administering medicines and recording accidents and incidents. Suitable evacuation plans and fire drills are all in place.

There is good evidence from discussions with the coordinator, and from records and current activities, that there is an appropriate understanding of provision for the welfare, learning and development of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Careful observational records are kept on every child regarding their enjoyment and engagement with activities and their behaviour and communication skills, and these are shared with parents. Parents are advised to share these with the children's schools and there are good procedures in place for gaining information about children's strengths and interests, pre-entry to the scheme.

The range of activities available, the level of staffing, the ways in which staff play with and talk with children, and the facilities available, offer appropriate high levels of provision for their learning difficulties and needs. The use of a specialist school for children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities as a base, and the availability of suitable resources mean that children have access to a range of appropriate indoor and outdoor play facilities to support learning and development. CamPlay's own toys, play materials and equipment and the use of local community facilities supplement this and further help to provide a highly stimulating environment for children. There is a very good balance in the planned activities between child-initiated and adult-led activities and an emphasis on supporting independence and choice. Activities and outings have a strong emphasis on helping children to enjoy and achieve, and to be healthy, and include cooking meals, swimming, outdoor play, gym and musical activities as well as visiting museums and parks.

The policies and practices in place and the discussions with the coordinator demonstrate a suitable knowledge of the information needed in order to meet the needs of each child and to ensure that everyone is included and has access to all activities and aspects of the setting.

## **Compliance with registration requirements**

The registered person continues to meet the requirements of registration.

## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met