



## **Camp Adventure @ Northcroft Leisure**

Inspection report for early years provision

<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	EY311142
<b>Inspection date</b>	16 February 2006
<b>Inspector</b>	Sheila Collins
<b>Setting Address</b>	Northcroft Leisure, Northcroft Lane, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1RS
<b>Telephone number</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Registered person</b>	Parkwood Leisure
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Childcare
<b>Type of care</b>	Full day care, Crèche

## 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*

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## 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?

Northcroft Leisure Centre is one of several leisure centres run by Parkwood Leisure. It was registered in 2005. It is within walking distance of Newbury Town Centre with two facilities for children operating under this registration. The crèche provides sessional care for up to 12 children aged under 5 years and is open weekdays from 9.00 to 12.00 and 9.00 to 15.30 on Fridays. The centre also operates a play scheme, Camp Adventure, which is open during holiday time only. This is registered for 50 children aged 5 years to 8 years and also caters for older children. The scheme has use of an outside park area and a variety of sports facilities.

There are approximately 80 children aged under 8 years on roll for the Camp Adventure and 25 on roll for the crèche. The centre supports children with special educational needs and children who speak English as an additional language.

The centre employs eight staff in the Camp Adventure who work directly with the children. Of these staff, two have level 2 early years qualifications. There are four staff employed in the crèche. Of these two hold a level 3 qualification and one has a level 2 early years qualification.

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROVISION**

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children are learning about good hygiene through the daily routines. Staff in the crèche follow good routines when changing nappies and help the toddlers to wash their hands after using the toilet. The children in Camp Adventure wash their hands before eating and after toileting.

Children's health is maintained because staff in both the crèche and the holiday play scheme have knowledge of first aid. Accidents and the administration of medication records are kept, although parental signatures on some accident records are not completed.

Parents of the children in the crèche supply the children's snacks and drinks. Staff ensure that these are given to the children. In Camp Adventure, some of the children bring their food and drinks from home. These lunch bags are with the children in the rooms, which means that they can easily access the food and drinks at any time. Children have healthy eating choices at snack time, when vegetable sticks are offered and those who have cooked lunch choose between healthy options, such as pasta or jacket potatoes. Drinking water is not available at all times but children have opportunities for regular drink breaks at snack and lunch times, when squash is given. However, some children have fizzy drinks from home or the vending machine.

The children in the crèche have good opportunities for physical development as there is a stage-appropriate soft play area with steps, ball pool etc. Babies benefit from having a defined area that is sectioned off, so they can crawl, roll and explore safely. Children in the crèche are cared for for a limited time so are not taken outside. The children in Camp Adventure enjoy taking part in a range of physical activities daily; for example, soft play, badminton, basketball and group games. During good weather, they go outside to the park to use the fixed apparatus and play outdoor games. All of these activities benefit the children's physical development.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Effective systems to monitor the safe arrival and departure of children ensure children's safety. Staff check children at regular intervals, for example when moving

from area to another. Children's safety is generally maintained as staff have a good awareness of safety issues. However not all areas used by the children are visually risk assessed daily. Some, for example the base room used by the under eights at Camp Adventure, are not satisfactorily cleaned prior to the children using the area.

Children in all areas have access to a range of resources. Staff check these regularly to ensure that they are clean and safe for the children to use. Children receive instructions on safe use of equipment such as the trampoline. Children describe the evacuation procedures. Staff discuss safe evacuation with the Camp Adventure children at the start of every holiday period, so that they know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Staff have a sound knowledge of child protection issues and understand the procedures to follow, so safe-guarding the children's welfare.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Children in the crèche engage in a variety of activities. Staff know the children well and their individual needs as most children attend regularly each week. Individual routines are followed and the children have a lot of one-to-one attention. Through praise, encouragement and support of the children's efforts and achievements, staff boost the children's self-esteem and confidence. Children choose from the activities put out by the staff and are learning to share and take turns, which benefits their social skills. Children also enjoy group times, such as listening to stories and eating snack together.

Children in Camp Adventure enjoy meeting their friends and making new acquaintances. They happily take part in activities, both sporting and non-sporting. They can opt to sit out if they choose. Children take part in physical activities during the day and have good opportunities to develop their sporting skills and learn to work as part of a team. They interact well with the staff and chat with them about events. An outline plan of each session is in place and staff tell the children the daily programme at the start of the day. However, staff do not always have the equipment for the planned activities in place in the base room, which means that children are sitting for a time with nothing to do.

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

The provision is satisfactory.

Crèche staff have a good awareness of the needs of the individual children in their care. Children have opportunities to take part in all activities, which are appropriate for their stage of development. Staff manage the children's behaviour consistently, giving lots of praise and encouragement which builds on the children's self-esteem and self-confidence. Partnership with parents is good with exchanges of information taking place at the beginning and end of sessions. Policies for parents are displayed on the crèche notice-board.

Children in Camp Adventure are generally well behaved. Children are aware of the rules in place for their benefit and are able to remind each other of these. Children show respect for each other and encourage each other especially when taking part in team games. They have positive attitudes to staff and other children. Staff know their individual needs and those who do not wish to take part in activities are not pressed to do so.

Parents receive details about Camp Adventure in the form of a programme and a booking form. They provide information about their child to ensure all receive appropriate care. There is a notice board displaying some policies but not all the relevant information is available; for example, the behaviour management statement only concerns bullying.

### **Organisation**

The organisation is satisfactory.

The setting meets the needs of the range of children for whom it provides. Procedures are in place for appointing new staff, which ensures that the staff working with the children are appropriately vetted, so safeguarding the children.

The children in Camp Adventure are grouped according to age. Only two staff members who work with them hold qualifications in childcare and the play leader does not have a level three qualification yet. The staff who work in the crèche hold relevant childcare qualifications. Staff are clear about their responsibilities to the children to ensure their well-being and enjoyment of the activities offered.

Although staff have operating procedures to follow, parents of the Camp Adventure children receive limited information about the policies and procedures for the setting.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

Not applicable.

### **Complaints since the last inspection**

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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
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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):

- develop and implement an action plan that sets out how staff training and qualification requirements will be met( full day care)
- ensure areas used by the children are clean and have been risk assessed before use(full day care)
- ensure that equipment for planned activities is in place before the activities start(full day care)
- ensure that the required policies and procedures are available to parents (full day care)

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